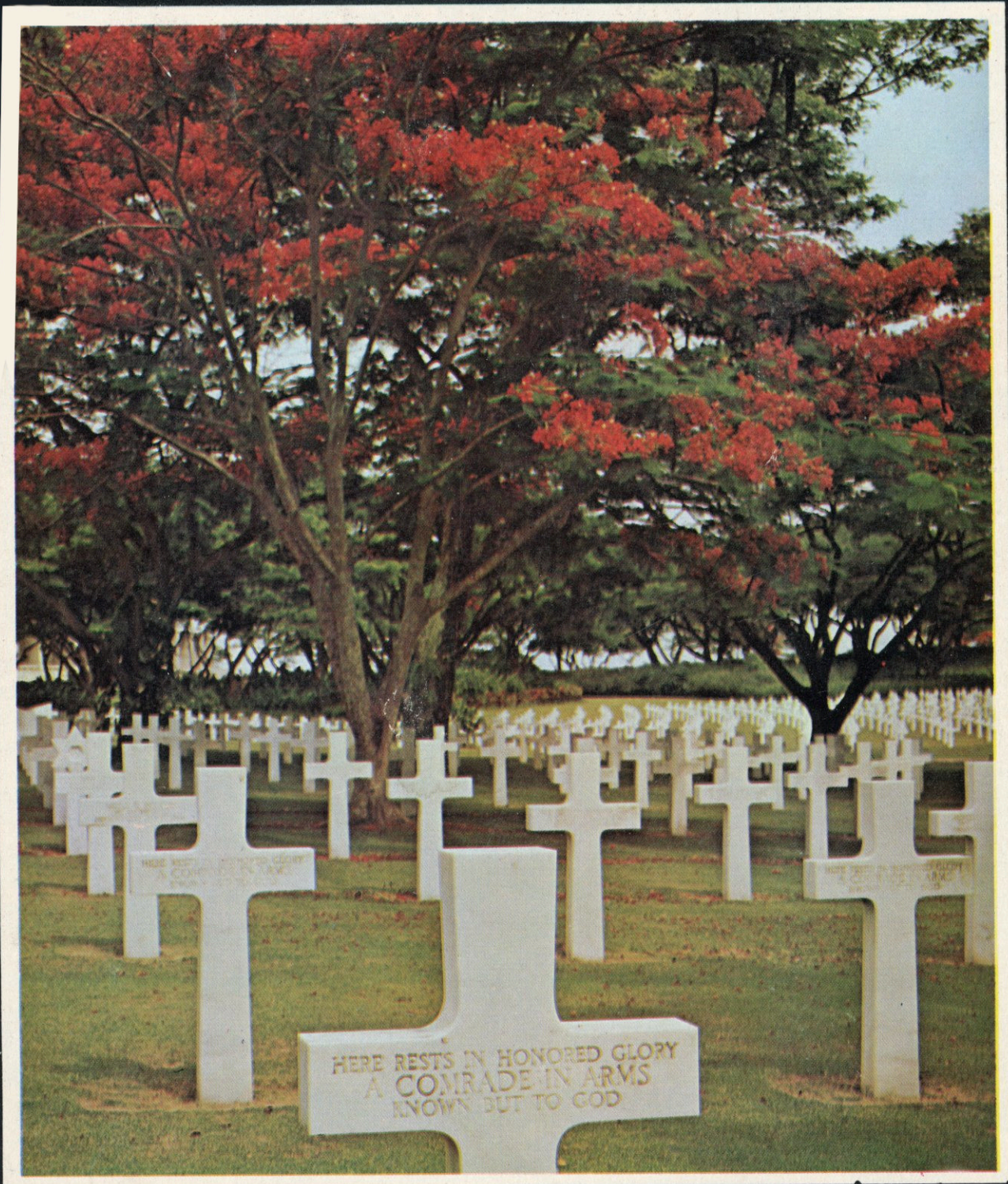


NOVEMBER, 1962

# V ★ F ★ W



"The Stars and Stripes"—1918 • 1962  
A Senate Veterans Affairs Committee!



# V \* F \* W

VOL. 50, NO. 3

NOVEMBER, 1962

## V.F.W. OBJECTIVES

- To insure the national security through maximum military strength.
- To speed the rehabilitation of the nation's disabled and needy veterans.
- To assist the widows and orphans, and the dependents of disabled and needy veterans.
- To promote Americanism through education in patriotism and constructive service to the communities in which we live.

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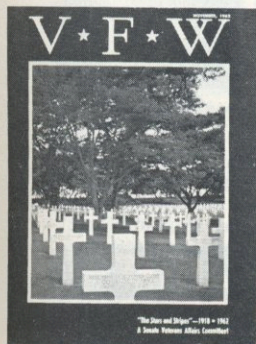
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## THE COVER



• Honor them with reverence—a serene and beautiful place of tranquil rest—and keep dynamic in ideals the deep meaning of their mortal sacrifices. It is little enough, but all a grateful nation can do for its fallen warriors. On Veterans Day, November 11, there will be ceremonies at U.S. military cemeteries throughout the world. Rifles will crack and bugles will sound eternal salutes—the sad, melodious tones of TAPS. On the cover is a view of the U.S. military cemetery south-east of Manila in the Philippines. It contains the graves of 17,182 servicemen killed during World War II. The names of 36,279 others reported missing in action are inscribed on pillars supporting hemicycle structures near the chapel atop a plateau. Headstones are aligned in 11 plots forming a concentric pattern over 152 acres. It is the largest U.S. military cemetery overseas. There are 125,000 American dead of both World Wars in a total of 22 overseas cemeteries. About 60 per cent of the World War II casualties were brought to the U.S. for reburial following hostilities. In the cover picture the grave markers stand before a "Flame" tree.

Official Monthly Publication of the

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF THE UNITED STATES

## Comment .....

ON NOVEMBER 11 this nation will once again observe Veterans Day. Banks and government offices throughout the nation will close. For the rest of the nation, with the exception of organized veterans' groups, the holiday will go unnoticed. Such is the sad tribute paid to the millions of men and women who have demonstrated their loyalty, their patriotism and their devotion to duty during times of national crisis.

We do not say that Veterans Day is a day to be marked by boastful utterances or noisy celebrations of past victories. Rather it should be a day to recall sacrifice and service, and the American ideals for which our citizens fought and died. It is a time to thank the living and to memorialize those men who died gallantly—men who served, suffered, endured and gave their lives for their country. Should we not be indebted to those who gave all for the maintenance of the American way of life?

Those men and women we salute on November 11 died for high ideals. That is the supreme thought we have as we pay respectful homage. Those same ideals inspired the ragged, poorly equipped soldiers of the American Revolution who gave life and meaning to the Declaration of Independence.

It was this thirst for liberty and the rights of man that guided the creators of one of the most noble and perfect documents ever conceived—the Constitution of the United States. Had it not been for such ideals throughout our history, our land would never have been what it is, nor could we have preserved and extended our basic concepts. We know, as veterans, that the graves of our war dead offer mute testimony to the heart, courage and determination of American citizens to defend their heritage—no matter what the cost.

As a nation we are once again being challenged. The Soviet Union, a country that says one thing and does another, preaches peace and then pulls the strings for puppet aggression. It uses huge sums of money and thousands of secret agents to foment wars and insurrections. It plants seeds of class hatred and plans world revolution. It carries on a ruthless international espionage system without parallel in history.

Nevertheless, we must not and we cannot afford to be discouraged.

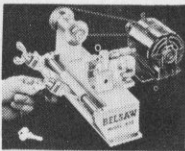
As we honor the memory of those who gave to this country victory in war, we are reminded that we are defending the causes for which they fought—causes that will determine the course of Western civilization and the entire world.

It remains a grievous fact that even today some Americans, and many throughout the Free World, fail to recognize the implications of the ruthless Communist plan now being executed with the calculated intent of the utter destruction of the Free World. Wake up America! Wake up Free World!



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# Along the Red Front

By Donald L. Miller



THE LARGE-SCALE Soviet military buildup in Cuba demonstrates that Chairman Khrushchev believes that Soviet-Communist politico-military power is now equal or superior to that of the United States.

Cuba is an advance base from the Soviet high command point of view, a base 5,000 miles from the main Soviet-Communist front in Europe. Such an open thrust over that distance into the continental defense zone of the United States could be made only if Chairman Khrushchev was convinced that the United States would not react with force.

No one knows how Khrushchev's shrewd mind works. One act after another demonstrates that he is willing to take great risks to gain his political objectives. But it is doubtful that he would flaunt a flagrant violation of our Monroe Doctrine at us without assurance that the United States either lacked the will to maintain its own inner defense line or lacked the power to do so.

To understand Khrushchev's thinking we must review the Communists' estimate of relative world power.

In the United States we estimate world power on the basis of military forces which can be put in the field, the fire power they can bring to bear, their readiness, the capabilities of the logistics systems and supporting industries, the morale of the troops and of the supporting civilian population. There are a few other factors, but all are centered upon the ability to deliver military force.

The Communist estimate, on the other hand, centers upon their capabilities for gaining political objectives without the actual use of their own military forces in combat. When a real war danger arises, Soviet-Communist forces prefer to withdraw, waiting for a future opportunity to gain the objective by political means.

The Communist estimate of world power, therefore, gives weight to such factors as population, the climate of world opinion, the activities of allied Communist Parties in non-Communist countries, the relative status of war-supporting economies and available military forces.

Here is the rough Communist estimate. **Population**—Communists control about one billion people. The United States and its allies control about 400 millions. The rest are either neutralist (and of no positive value to the United States) or inclined toward the Communist bloc. Communists figure they have been ahead in this category since 1957.

**World Opinion**—Communist propagandists present the Soviet Union to the world as a leader for peace, independence and progress. They present the United States as the leader of the war-makers and reactionaries. Repeated propaganda statements and acts have convinced many millions of people around the world to support Communist "peaceful" conquest while they oppose U.S. military efforts to prevent that conquest. Communists use this force to discourage U.S. use of force to oppose Communist advances.

**Communist Parties**—The Kremlin high command regards Communist Parties in the U.S. and in all non-Communist countries as part of the Communist offensive forces. Right now there are 41,000,000 Communist Party members—over 5,000,000 of them in non-Communist countries. They are a major bonus in overall Communist world power. The U.S. has nothing to match it.

**Economy**—The Soviet economy lags behind that of the United States in consumer goods. But Soviet economists estimate that their war-supporting industries will catch up to those of the U.S. by 1967 at the earliest or by 1972 at the latest.

**Military**—The best available estimates are that the Soviet Union and the U.S. are at a standoff in deliverable nuclear power. The U.S. has a sizeable edge in naval power, but the USSR has larger ground and air forces.

On balance, the Kremlin top command figures the Soviet-Communist forces hold the edge in overall politico-military world power. The only real force we have to counter their aggressive thrusts is our military power. They are trying to strip us of this power by means of disarmament.

This is the problem top U.S. planners must consider and to alter in our favor. Our positions on Cuba, West Berlin, South Vietnam and other crisis spots cannot be any stronger than the power we have and our will to use it wisely.



# Capitol Digest



*By Francis W. Stover*

Director, V.F.W. National Legislative Service

THE 87TH CONGRESS convened back on Jan. 3, 1961. Because of a large number of delaying factors, the second session did not wind up until well into October, making this the longest Congress since 1951. The total number of bills and House resolutions also were at a record level, with veterans legislation representing a proportionate share.

The major Congressional achievement for veterans during this Congress was the compensation increase for the service-disabled. By virtue of Public Law 87-645, the two million service-disabled will receive an average of 9.2 per cent increase in their rates of disability compensation which now range from \$20 a month for a veteran with 10 per cent disability to \$250 for a 100 per cent disabled veteran. This was a \$100 million law and was successful only after a two-year battle which finally was resolved when the House and Senate put away some of their parliamentary differences and cleared the compensation increase late in the second session.

Pensions also consumed much of the time and attention of the 87th Congress. No pension bill, however, was advanced out of either a House or Senate Committee. One almost reached the floor of the House by virtue of a little used and rarely successful maneuver called a discharge petition.

Pension hearings were held in both the first and second sessions of this Congress by the House Committee on Veterans Affairs. All sides were heard from and considerable evidence and information was obtained concerning the pension program, more particularly the operation of the Veterans Pension Act of 1959 (Public Law 86-211). For those who were already receiving a pension before July 1, 1961, under the old pension program, there is the right to elect to come under the new pension program if the pension payments will be greater. The hearings confirmed the phenomenon that there are several hundred thousand widows and veterans who are in the lowest income brackets and could be receiving higher pension payments but for varied reasons have remained under the old law. Unquestionably, the first order of business for the 88th Congress will be legislation to amend and liberalize the pension program. The V.F.W. strongly recommended liberalization of the pension program—and a separate and more generous program for the veterans of World War I.

The Senate also had its opportunity to vote for a pension bill which was brought to the floor of the Senate in an unusual maneuver by Senator Wayne Morse of Oregon. Senator Morse attached a World War I pension amendment to a money bill for the operation of the State, Justice, and Commerce Departments when that bill was being considered late in the second session. Since a money bill is a "must" piece of legislation before Congress can go home, and since Senator Morse demanded a roll call vote, there was an opportunity to witness the sentiment of the Senate with respect to this proposal. Although the amendment failed by a vote of 53 to 22, many indicated it would have been different had there been time to study the pension proposal and vote upon its own merits. The Veterans of Foreign Wars vigorously supported the Morse Amendment, and was the only veterans organization to do so.

It is most unfortunate that no Senate Committee has ever held any hearings on the pension question since many Senators were surprised by this very unrelated amendment to a money bill.

In the field of hospital and medical care, the 87th Congress, during both the first and second session, appropriated almost \$1 billion to carry out the medical programs and operate the Veterans Administration hospitals throughout the nation. Most important construction and renovation programs for new and existing VA hospitals went forward as planned by the VA and approved under the Eisenhower Administration in 1959. You will recall, a 12-year renovation program costing \$900 million was found necessary after a massive study by the Veterans Administration and Congress as to how to put the VA hospital plant into first-class condition. Even though the funds have been approved by the Administration, each year the Congress must approve at least \$75 million to keep this program going forward as scheduled. This was done during both sessions of the 87th Congress. The Congress approved \$5 billion 300 million to carry out Veterans Administration programs for this year.

Another significant event took place during the 87th Congress which was little noticed by most interested parties. This was the extension of the Vocational Rehabilitation Program for the service-disabled to include all disabled veterans who have suffered a vocational handicap through service in the Armed Forces. In other words, Public Law 16, as it was approved for World War II veterans, and Public Law 894 for Korean veterans are now a permanent program which carries out one of our nationally-approved Minneapolis mandates.

Reopening of the National Service Life Insurance for the veterans of World War II and the Korean War who have allowed their policies to lapse was still in doubt at the time of this article. The 87th Congress witnessed the furthest point of advance for this legislation since the right to take this insurance out was terminated in 1951. The Senate, through the leadership of Senator Russell Long of Louisiana, passed a bill to reopen the program for all veterans who could meet the health requirements, and who would pay the additional amount for administrative costs. The House passed a bill to reopen the program for the service-disabled who were unable to obtain life insurance from commercial companies, with the administrative costs to be paid by the government. A conference was requested by the Senate, but at the time of this writing the two bodies had not met and many were predicting the bills would die for lack of further action. The Veterans of Foreign Wars was supporting and strongly urging the conferees to adopt Senator Long's bill to reopen the NSLI program for all eligible veterans.

Over 20 other bills pertaining to veterans' benefits were enacted into law during the 87th Congress. Most of these liberalized or took care of inequities and injustices which have arisen in the operation of the veterans' benefit programs. Although highly desirable, several were objected to and some failed to win the approval of Congress on this ground alone. A complete list of all these new laws will be cited in the next *Capitol Digest*.

[The End]

V.F.W. MAGAZINE



# The Observation Post



By  
**Bill Vaughan**

Instant, worldwide communication is generally saluted as a good thing, but maybe there is something to be said for the old days when a war in Europe was over before we heard about it.

**It's amazing the way the smallest country seems to have room enough for the biggest problems.**

We can't know what form they'll take, but it's a sure thing that when the first military mission reaches the moon there will be some kind of living organism there to sell souvenirs to the troops.

**Not the least of the glories of our National Anthem is that it is able to survive after all the ways it gets massacred every day.**

Asked if he is ready for the Golden Years of retirement, the man next door says he already has figured out what his hobby is going to be—shaving once a week.

**The Army is experimenting with machines that run on legs instead of wheels. What is this—a trend back to the infantryman?**

The Defense Secretary promises economies. Military finance is the art of steering a middle course between spending too little, too late or too much, too soon.

**Sometimes I think our armed services change their nomenclature from time to time just to keep old soldiers, sailors and airmen from sounding up-to-date.**

The guy next door says his vacation choice is between staying home and painting the house or going to the lake and painting his boat.



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# About Hunting & Fishing



## VEXING VENISON

• With bow hunting one of the nation's fastest growing sports, the ratio of success during deer season is a poor criterion of the average archer's shooting ability. Some of the best shots have yet to down their deer. The American Indian, with much inferior equipment, lived by the bow. He made up in patience and knowledge of his quarry's habits what he lacked in comparison to his 1962 counterpart's hardware.

Stalking deer is a waste of time for the most part. Even if you can sneak close enough for a decent shot, you will usually spook the deer when you attempt an aiming position. Except on rainy days, trying to jump a deer from its bed and kill it with an arrow fringes on the impossible. Either let the deer come to you or have it driven there. A few hours spent before the opener learning where deer are traveling will avoid many fruitless hours of search in season.

No bowman should attempt a shot at a big-game animal over half the distance he would expect to score on a 6-inch target on the shooting range.

## FALLING STARS

• The high cost of oysters can in part be charged to the common starfish—a tourist delight but an oyster blight. Thousands of dollars are being spent by New York, Connecticut and the Fish and Wildlife Service to combat starfish which have all but destroyed some oyster beds in the Long Island Sound area. Various mechanical devices have been somewhat effective in removing starfish. But modern chemicals have suggested the way to eventual control. The starfish was first recognized as a predator of shellfish back in 1845 when oyster culture began in the United States. Destroying stars has been the oysterman's chief sport ever since.

## ARMED INVADERS

• Although non-residents buy only a token percentage of the total hunting licenses in most states, more than one-third of the paying hunters in Wyoming are from out-of-state. Nearly the same ratio holds true for New Hampshire and Vermont where approximately one out of four hunters crosses the state line. Colorado has the most non-resident guns, 62,734 in 1961, or one out of every six hunters.

Highest total licensees, including tags, permits and stamps issued, was 1,308,399 in California. Pennsylvania was second with 1,295,416, followed by Michigan with 1,149,476. Total expenditures in all 50 states for hunting tax was \$64,062,782. New York collected the highest total tariff, \$5,783,999, although ranking fourth in the number of total tags issued.

## WAY OF THE WILD

• To limit the number of domesticated mallard ducks on my backyard pond (since they tear down the edges), I reduced my flock this year to two hens. A wild drake sneaked in last spring with the result that one hen had five fertile eggs. Three ducklings survived to maturity. Although the domesticated ducks are strictly stay-at-homes, the three youngsters with the wild strain have already left for other parts.

## QUARRELSOME QUILLS

• Occasionally a hunting dog will mix it up with a porcupine, much to his sorrow. If the quills were needle points, it would be no problem. However, barbs on the quills cause them to work into the dog's flesh until removed. They will even cause auto tires to go flat if they become impaled in the sidewall.

In really bad cases, it is best to get the dog to a veterinarian. Otherwise, muzzle the dog and pull the quills with



a pair of pliers. Although the vet will use an anesthesia to make it easier on the dog, don't wait if the time involved might invite infection before you can get professional attention. Keep the dog warm to prevent shock.

### DON'TS FOR DUCKS

- Because so-called "sportsmen" will continue to devise ways to remove the sport from duck hunting, it has been necessary to outlaw three practices which were becoming widespread. Baiting, use of live decoys, and more recently, electronics have become taboo. Although natural plantings to provide duck food are permitted, concentrating ducks through artificial feeding is not permitted. Neither is it permissible to use live ducks to bring in their wild counterparts. Recorded noises of feeding ducks and geese, which are then broadcast for hunting purposes, are now outlawed.

These devices not only made it easy for hunters to take their limits, they frequently tempted them into taking far more than their limits. Those who don't want to take their chances with nature had best do their shooting on commercial preserves.

### HATCHERY HISTORY

- The federal fish hatchery system observes its 90th birthday this year. The first hatchery was established in 1872 at Baird, Calif., which closely followed creation of a Fish Commission by the Congress in 1871. The Act of June 10, 1872, authorized the Commission to investigate diminishing food fishes of the coasts and lakes of this country.

There are today about an even 100 hatcheries in the country. Since the first federal hatchery many states have developed their own fish hatcheries and cooperation between the two groups has meant much to sportsmen. During an average year about 15 million pounds of trout are stocked by the states and the federal government. Approximately 90 per cent of these fish are contributed by the individual states.

### MISSING MYSTERIES

- Why do experts on the target range often miss in the field?

It is true that some of the crack-shots on a controlled range are known to miss easy shots at game. Both fine rifle men and expert archers have been embarrassed by flubbing shots in the woods that a novice would consider easy on the range. Excitement is probably the greatest handicap. Without it, hunting would lose its zest. But, the ability to control it is necessary while enjoying it.

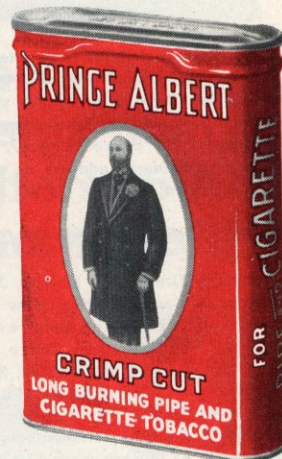
The other reason is the inability to judge distances under hunting condi-

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# PRINCE ALBERT

tions. Successful hunters frequently lie as much about distances at which they shoot their game as they do about the weights of their quarry. Several years ago I secretly had a food processing locker man write down actual weights as well as the guesstimates that hunters wrote down on their big-game tags. There was little relationship between actual weights and those reported.

Even good trap and skeet shooters will frequently waste shots on birds as big as ring-necked pheasants which are easy targets right after the flush. Again, excitement foils the experts. You can prove this in reflection by remembering how much better you shoot later in the season when the excitement wears thinner and you become more deliberate in your shooting.

### HOLD AT A HUNDRED

- The *average* hunter who sights in his rifle at over 100 yards is dreaming—and it may turn out to be a bad dream. Most big-game loads will provide an almost negligent trajectory up to 100 yards. Yet, even some of the more popular loads will begin dropping off significantly beyond that distance. For instance, a 30-06, 180-grain bullet

will rise midway from only two to three inches when sighted for 100 yards. But, it will drop roughly 16 or 17 inches at 300 yards, depending on the type bullet, using the same sighting.

Modern guns have removed much of the skill in shooting. The skill required to approach to within a reasonable shooting distance is one which can never change. The hunting sport is not a matter of mechanics; it is still a sport. But the final test of *individual* sportsmanship is whether or not the hunter holds his fire until *he* has a reasonable chance of a killing shot with the equipment *he* is using.

### WAY WITH WORMS

- A. C. Humphreys, Thompsonville, Conn., has a way with worms that he says will keep them indefinitely. A. C., who has fished man and boy over a long haul, takes dirt from the place of digging to store his worms in a glass jar. He punches holes in the jar lid and keeps his pets in a cool place until their services are needed. If you can get away with it, the refrigerator makes a good spot for worms. Just don't park them too close to spaghetti or you may be forced to eat your own worms.



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# V.F.W. and National Security

By Brigadier General J. D. Hittle, USMC (Ret.)  
Director, V.F.W. National Security and Foreign Affairs



GENERAL Curtis LeMay, Air Force Chief of Staff, has long been known for his straight-to-the-point opinions. General LeMay is, with good reason, widely

recognized as the foremost practitioner and apostle of strategic air power. From the days when he commanded the great B-29 armadas, fire-bombing Japan from their bases in the Marianas, General LeMay has pretty well charted the direction of U. S. air power.

Thus, when General LeMay speaks his mind on air power, his words merit the attention of defense planners and the nation as a whole. He utilized his appearance before the Appropriations Committee of the U. S. Senate during the current session to set forth some of the opinions concerning U. S. air power.

The essence of that testimony was that the United States had better go slow in closing out the long-range high-performance, piloted-bomber program. He stressed the importance of high-performance piloted Soviet bombers—which he stated *could* reach the U. S. But he did not in any sense discount the importance of the long-range nuclear-type missile. What he was urging, and what some top defense policy-makers have not heeded, is the continuing importance of long-range missiles *together* with long-range bombers.

In his testimony before the Senate Appropriations Committee, General LeMay briefly laid down the reasons why the diversification of our air power—such diversification being based on use of *both* manned bombers and missiles—is necessary. He said, “. . . diversification provides four advantages:

“*First*, it gives us a flexible or versatile capability so that if one method of attack is rendered ineffective because of enemy defenses, we have other methods available.

“*Second*, it forces the enemy to expend maximum effort and resources in his attempt to defend against all methods of our attack.

“*Third*, it compounds the enemy attack problem, both in types and numbers of weapons, which, in turn, enhances the survivability of each of our systems.

“*Fourth*, the manned systems give us a capability to observe and report the

physical evidence of an enemy's situation. This information is a vital requirement for the conduct of war.”

Congress, which historically has demonstrated a farsighted and sound grasp of military policy, seems to have realized the importance of continuing the manned bomber program. In the first session of the 87th Congress (last year), Congress appropriated about \$400,000,000, above the Pentagon's budget for bomber procurement. As those who have followed defense policy will recall, those funds were not used. The result is that unless there is a change—and a drastic one—in top-level defense thinking, the strategic bomber, as we know it today, is on its way out. The assembly lines of the B-52 and B-58 are closing down. When this happens, it will be a difficult task to start up production, if it is later decided that this phaseout program was wrong.

General Thomas S. Power, Chief of the Strategic Air Command, recently added his warning. He said, “We must take into account the possibility that sometime in the future the Soviets may develop an effective defense against missiles which would force us to place greater reliance on the bomber again.”

The V.F.W. shares the apprehensions of General LeMay and General Power as to the danger of too-rapid abandonment of the long-range piloted bomber. The delegates to our 1962 National Convention adopted a resolution urging that our air power include missiles and long-range piloted aircraft. In setting forth the reasons for this resolution, the V.F.W.'s reasoning closely paralleled the reasoning of General LeMay and General Power.

For instance, Resolution 212 expresses the V.F.W. belief that “total strategic reliance upon long-range missiles would jeopardize our national security by following the frequently discredited theory of all the eggs in one basket.”

The history of warfare has pretty well established that any nation that places all its military eggs in one basket is toying with its destiny. Thus, in supporting the position of the outstanding advocates of air power, the V.F.W. urges an air power policy of both long-range piloted bombers *and* missiles. In so doing, the V.F.W. would “play it safe.”

When a nation's survival is at stake, it is better to have too much. It is fatal to have too little.



## Veterans Administration Points to Proud Record in Veterans Welfare Program

**S**EVENTEEN years ago millions of GI's were returning home from the battle theaters of World War II. They were planning how to take up civilian life where they had left off. Could they carry the handicap of such a time loss in the very prime of their young lives?

They could and they did.

Today finds the average ex-GI of World War II to be 44 years old, married with three children, an annual income of just under \$6,000 and—if he purchased his home under the GI Bill's home loan guaranty plan, he is living in a home costing \$14,500.

This is a "capsule look" at the 15,127,000 living World War II veterans, according to John S. Gleason, Jr., Administrator of Veterans Affairs.

A look at the record also shows that 87.8 per cent of the World War II veterans are living with their original wives. Another indication of "normal readjustment" to civilian life is the fact that 97.9 per cent of World War II veterans are employed, according to latest available VA compilations.

Most of them are engaged in some phase of manufacturing, with trade, transport and construction following in that order. Seven per cent live on farms and follow some branch of agriculture or animal husbandry.

The scope of the various programs administered by the Veterans Administration—for veterans of all wars—becomes apparent from some of the following statistics:

The largest hospital and clinic system in the nation is maintained by the Veterans Administration. On an average day 112,000 veterans can be found in VA's 170 hospitals. Between 500,000 and 600,000 veterans are patients in VA hospitals in any one year and another 1.5 million veterans are treated at VA outpatient clinics.

A \$40-billion life insurance business which is one of the largest in the world.

An educational and training program that already has more than 11 million alumni and is still in operation.

The nation has gained in every respect, and its reservoir of trained manpower has accordingly increased as shown by the following:

460,000 engineers, 360,000 school teachers, 130,000 doctors, dentists and nurses, and 150,000 scientists.

A GI loan program that has already made more than 6.2 million loans valued at more than \$54.5 billion. Under this program have been made more than one-fifth of the home loans granted in the United States over the past 10 years. Nearly two and one-quarter million of these loans have been repaid in full.

A compensation and pension system that makes payments of over \$300-million each month to more than 4 million disabled veterans, and widows, children and dependent parents of deceased veterans.

Many other programs, relating to the blind, the maimed, the mentally ill and, finally, the family of the deceased veteran.

To handle these veterans programs VA has:

An annual budget of \$5.5-billion and more than 170,000 employees spread through every state in the Union, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, and an office in the Philippines.

170 hospitals, 91 outpatient clinics, 67 regional offices, 18 domiciliarys for elderly veterans, three insurance centers, and the most modern automatic data processing equipment to carry on major programs with efficiency and speed.

A total of 18,000 full and part-time physicians connected with the medical program, more than 1,000 dentists, and some 14,000 nurses working in the largest organized nursing service in the world.

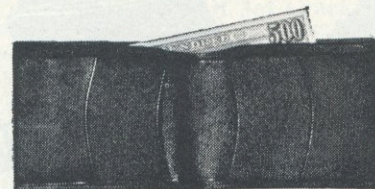
Claims and benefit files of more than 26,000,000 veterans of all wars—living and dead—in which there can be found nearly 8,000 "William Browns." Similarly, there are 11,000 "William Smith" listings and even 133 John F. Kennedy entries.

According to Administrator Gleason:

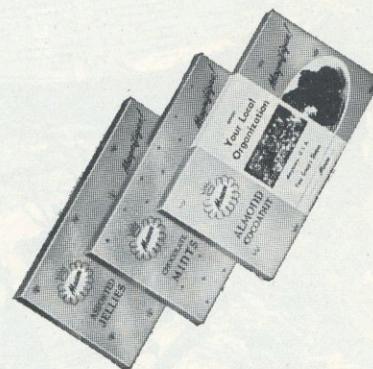
"Credit for the tremendous record of readjustment by the veterans of World War II goes to the young men and women who served in the conflict.

"Because of them, the nation survived in time of war, and now they are providing strength and leadership in America's quest for a just and enduring peace."

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City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_

How many members \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

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# THE STARS AND



**Editor's Note:** The European edition of the famed STARS AND STRIPES, American military newspaper, celebrated 20 years of continuous publication last April 18. Born in the tumultuous crisis of World War I, the first edition was published in Paris, France, Feb. 8, 1918. The last of 71 weekly editions was issued June 13, 1919. Upon America's entry into World War II, STARS AND STRIPES again started publication, continuing its former high traditions of quality reporting under trying conditions. The first edition of the World War II publication was issued from a private print shop in London, England, April 18, 1942. It is an odd coincidence that as early as August, 1861, there was a newspaper called THE STARS AND STRIPES. It was issued from a small town in Virginia called Tobacco Factory during the Civil War. But the first military newspaper to be called STARS AND STRIPES was published by four Union soldiers at Bloomfield, Mo., on Nov. 9, 1861. It was printed on a press captured by the 18th and 29th Illinois Volunteer Infantry Regiments. Only one edition was printed, however. Later, other publications using the same name had short lives also. They were printed by Union troops at Thibodaux, La.; Boston, Mass.; Jacksonport, Ark., and New Orleans, La. V.F.W. MAGAZINE is proud to salute the men of this unique journalistic organization with the following article. Much of it was taken from THE STARS AND STRIPES 20th Anniversary Supplement.

ON NOVEMBER 11 the nation will salute its millions of veterans with parades, speeches, banquets and pageantry. Planes will thunder overhead and rifles will crack in military ceremonies.

It will be *Veterans Day*—1962.

Many remember the period when November 11 reflected a hopeful prayer for eternal peace in the world. It commemorated the end of World War I hostilities—the War To End All Wars. A mourning, battle-weary world called it *Armistice Day*. It became a hallowed tribute to the millions who had given their lives and blood in the gigantic conflict.

But World War II erased glowing dreams of a permanent peace, and until its redesignation as *Veterans Day*, November 11 lost its special meaning. Now the day is observed as a national salute to America's veterans, past and present. And what better way to observe the event than to honor an institution respected by all veterans, everywhere? An institution about which there is no disagreement regarding its high standards and traditions of excellence—the publication called *The Stars and Stripes*.

On February 8, 1918—44 years ago—the first issue of *The Stars and Stripes*, the official newspaper of the

American Expeditionary Forces of World War I, rolled off the presses of the continental edition plant of the *London Daily Mail* in Paris.

One journalistic mid-wife attending the birth of the famous military newspaper was Bill Michael, who now writes a column for the *Kansas City Star*. He recounted the story this way:

"I was a First Lieutenant with the 101st Machine Gun Battalion of the 26th Division when I met a salutin' little demon of a buck private, Hudson Hawley, who had been a writer on the Springfield, Mass., *Republican*. Hawley started a little paper called the *Tripod* in Nancy, France, a few kilos away. He asked me to help him.

"A few days after the first issue the censorship office at Neufchateau notified our battalion commander to cease publication and send the men responsible for the *Tripod* to the press division. Our first thought was we had violated the censorship code and would spend the rest of the war at Fort Leavenworth.

"At Neufchateau, Guy T. Viskniskki, Lieutenant of the Press Division, broke the news that we were in good standing. He told us about the plans of General Pershing and his staff to issue a newspaper in Paris for American forces in Europe. Viskniskki was the man who sold Persh-



# STRIPES



"The Stars and Stripes" in World War I

Recent edition of "The Stars and Stripes"

ing the idea. His home was in Montclair, N.J., where he had worked for the Wheeler Newspaper Syndicate.

"This happened in January, 1918, and I was sent to Paris to make arrangements for printing the official newspaper. I was scared stiff. All the French I knew was *combien, vive la France, Lafayette, I'm here, and bon jour, mademoiselle*. I might as well have been in outer space.

"Paris had three English language newspapers — the *New York Herald*, the *Chicago Tribune*, and the continental edition of the *London Daily Mail*. The American papers refused any assistance in getting out a weekly paper for American troops. James Gordon Bennett, publisher of the *Herald*, ran an editorial saying that he would print the news for the doughboys and we should get out of town.

"But Lord Northcliffe's *Daily Mail* staff in Paris gave us permission to use its plant. We brought in writers, printers, stereotypers and pressmen from troops of the U.S. Our first business and editorial office was at the Hotel Ste. Anne.

"Marine Lieutenant Charles P. Cushing got together with Visk and me to select a suitable name. Considered were: *Liberty, Independence, and U.S.A.* We chose *The Stars and Stripes* because it was long enough to fit over the seven columns of the first page in the size type we had available.

"Webb Miller, U.P. war correspondent, who was killed soon after the war in a London subway, got his news service for us after the first issue was out. When it came off the presses Viskniski grabbed a copy and a one-cylinder cab to catch a train to Chaumont, the G.H.Q. in France. He was anxious to show Pershing his big picture on the front page.

"I was left in Paris holding the sack with 40,000 copies and not a single subscriber. I hired a few of the old taxis that Marshal Foch had used to rush troops up to save Paris at the first battle of the Marne. We loaded the bundled papers and took them to the many railway depots in Paris. We told the train crews to throw them off any place American troops were stationed. We had to grease many palms.

"Then I took some papers to Hatchette, the firm which operated the newspaper kiosks along the Grand Boulevard. Those little stands with rococo domes, ornamented with a lot of 'gingerbread,' are still in use. Brentano's book store on the Avenue de l'Opera took several hundred copies and stuck one on the glass of the front window. They sold out the first day and ordered more. The price was 50 centimes, or about nine U.S. cents. (Continued on page 40)



ABOVE: An extra edition of "The Stars and Stripes" announces the surrender of Nazi Germany in London, 1945. The modern paper was born in London on April 18, 1942. BELOW: Copies of "The Stars and Stripes" follow readers to the field and to Army, Navy and Air Force bases throughout the United States and to bases overseas.





# Why a Standing Committee of the Senate for Veterans Affairs?



Following his election at the National Convention, Commander-in-Chief Byron B. Gentry (right) traveled to Washington, D.C., where he met many of the nation's leaders. Here he is shown discussing the subject of this article with the author, Sen. Everett M. Dirksen, Illinois.

By SENATOR EVERETT MCKINLEY DIRKSEN

United States Senate  
Minority Leader

**T**HERE IS NEED for a standing committee of the Senate to deal solely with Veterans Affairs. Veterans problems and their solutions must be handled with greater speed and efficiency. I advocate creation of such a veterans committee.

In 1945 I served on a Joint Committee of the Senate and House of Representatives which was created for the purpose of reorganizing the Legislative Branch of government, including the streamlining of committees. The Joint Committee consisted of six Senators and six Representatives. It labored for two years and the fruit of this labor was the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946, under which standing committees of the House were reduced from 43 to 19 and in the Senate from 33 to 15. It was a considerable task but at long last the Reorganization plan was accomplished, the new duties and jurisdictions were allotted and the committee organization and staffing perfected.

The members of the Joint Committee soon realized that government is a dynamic and not a static thing. Many factors lead to this conclusion. Our population is rising by leaps and bounds, new functions for government are authorized by the Congress, new fields of activity are invaded, new discoveries—like that of nuclear power—command new activities by government and new agencies are created to deal with such functions. The result is a substantial addition to the workload of all committees.

Matters relating to veterans in this set-up are presently divided between the Committee on Labor and Public Welfare and the Committee on Finance. In a general way, the Committee on Labor and Public Welfare has jurisdiction over those matters relating to veterans hospitals, medical care and

treatment. The Committee on Finance deals with veterans measures generally, including pensions for all wars, life insurance issued by the government for service in the Armed Forces, compensation of veterans and all matters in the economic categories.

Now let me point out that in the First Session of the present 87th Congress there was, insofar as I can determine, 322 bills and resolutions introduced in the Senate and House of Representatives and 99 bills and resolutions in the Second Session up to July 13, 1962. This makes a total of 421 veterans measures. I am quite certain that additional measures have been introduced since that time.

These proposals deal with a vast variety of matters affecting veterans, such as awards, disability benefits, burial allowances, hospitalization, housing loans, soldiers homes, compensation, unemployment, war orphans and a great many others.

Consider the impact of these measures on a completely overburdened Finance Committee, which has been under exceedingly heavy pressure in the preparation of such other important matters as tax revision, trade expansion, social security, medicare, and many other matters over which this committee has jurisdiction. These proposals have kept the Finance Committee in almost continuous session since the beginning of the year, taking an incredible amount of testimony and preparation and submitting measures to the Senate for consideration. It must be obvious that it left far too little time for veterans matters, certainly not the amount of time that veterans affairs properly require. Moreover, when the Finance Committee staff is engaged in work on general legislation like trade expansion and tax revision, it allows little time for proper and adequate staff work in connection with those measures in which veterans are most interested.

Much the same case can be made for the Committee on Labor and Public Welfare, which deals with vocational rehabilitation and the education of veterans as well as hospitals, medical care, treatment, etc. In addition to this the Labor Committee has general jurisdiction of the GI Bill of Rights, all health, education and welfare matters such as education, National Institute of Health, Hill-Burton hospital legislation, Federal Council of arts, including federal grants, if any, and the railroad retirement and labor matters including labor legislation, labor management relations, pension and welfare disclosure matters, manpower retraining, longshoreman compensation and D.C. workman's compensation.

The sheer volume of work occasioned by problems relating to veterans dictates that a new standing committee, adequately staffed, should be added to the roster of Senate standing committees if our responsibility to the veterans is to be fully and adequately discharged.

It must be evident to anyone who has watched the growth and added responsibilities of government that the volume of legislation dealing with veterans is not receding. Certainly the Congress has a solemn responsibility to do full and adequate justice to those who in peacetime and in war have assumed their responsibilities for the defense and security of our country.

I believe the record fully supports the need for a standing committee of the Senate on Veterans Affairs. THE END

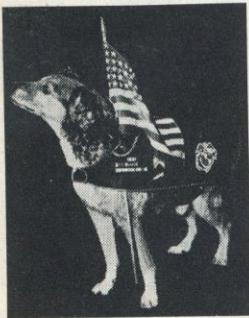


THEY CALLED THEM  
DEVIL DOGS AND  
IN COMBAT THEY  
LIVED UP TO  
THAT NAME



# OL' SARGE

By Lindy V. Avakian and Henry D. Spalding



ONE OF THE heroes of World War II died on May 17th of last year. He was only 20 years old.

But he won nine citations for valor beyond the call of duty in his three and one-half years of combat in the South Pacific.

His name was Major Von Luckner III, affectionately dubbed "Sarge" by his buddies in the Second Marine Regiment. A handsome, finely boned German Shepherd, he was the last surviving member of World War II's Canine Corps, and the last of the Marine "Devil Dogs." By human standards, he would have been around 140 years old.

Yet it was not too long ago that Sarge cautiously lifted his muzzle above the rim of a foxhole and sniffed the alien air. Crouching beside him was Sergeant Walter McGee. They were part of a platoon consisting of 54 "Leathernecks" and 24 "Devil Dogs," the canine nomer, veterans of fighting at Guadalcanal in the Solomons, the Marianas and other islands. Now they were in action again, this time on Iwo Jima. The order came to advance: the objective, a heavily fortified emplacement of Japanese soldiers.

Enemy fire rose to a blood-chilling crescendo as a bombardment of artillery shells and machine-gun bullets whizzed and exploded about Sarge and McGee. In the din of battle, Sarge turned his head to lick his Marine buddy's hand.

"It was almost as though Sarge was trying to assure me that I needn't be frightened—that he would protect me," recalled Sergeant McGee. "I reached out (Continued on page 46)

"Ol' Sarge," the last surviving member of World War II's Canine Corps is laid to rest at the Sea Breeze Pet Cemetery at Huntington, Calif. Sarge won nine decorations for valor.





# TEACH YOUR SON

## How to Handle a Gun!

**CARELESSNESS ACCOUNTS FOR MOST HUNTING ACCIDENTS. BE WISE AND LEARN THE RULES OF FIREARM SAFETY**

### The 10 Commandments OF FIREARMS SAFETY

1. Treat every gun with the respect due a loaded gun. This is the cardinal rule of gun safety.
2. Carry only empty guns, taken down or with the action open, into your automobile, camp, and home.
3. Always be sure that the barrel and action are clear of obstructions.
4. Always carry your gun so that you can control the direction of the muzzle, even if you stumble.
5. Be sure of your target before you pull the trigger.
6. Never point a gun at anything you do not want to shoot.
7. Never leave your gun unattended unless you unload it first.
8. Never climb a tree or a fence with a loaded gun.
9. Never shoot at a flat, hard surface or the surface of water.
10. Do not mix gunpowder and alcohol.



Stalking the game. Young Lance Burkland closely follows his father through a patch of brush. Gun muzzles are correctly pointed skyward.

**BY RICHARD LA COSTE**

(Photos by Bob Ray)

Butt first—muzzle pointed away from all persons. This is the proper way to hand a weapon to a person sitting in an automobile. Always handle firearms as though they were loaded.



**M**ORE THAN 16 million sportsmen this coming hunting season will take to the nation's fields and trails. Between 200 and 300 will be killed outright during the late fall-winter season alone. Some 16,000 accidents will be officially reported.

How many will die months from the time of their accidents, or be maimed for the rest of their lives, can only be a matter of conjecture.

What a wanton waste of human life! Thousands of these accidents could be prevented, but they will happen.

Most important, will *you* be one of these casualties? Sure, you know how to handle a gun. But have you ever taught your son to handle a gun? Or, for that matter, your daughter or your wife? If not, make that teaching chore a high priority project. It could easily save your life, or that of a loved one. Death is so final!

Actually, hunting is one of the safest of America's sports but hunting accidents make newspaper headlines—catch readers' eyes.

What really drives the drama home to most sportsmen—and especially veterans familiar with firearms—is when the accidents happen to, “Good ol’ Jim,” or “Bill,” or “Jack.”

How come? Jim, Bill and Jack were experienced hunters. They *knew* how to handle a gun. But did they?

If Jim, Bill and Jack really had known how to handle rifle, gun, pistol or automatic properly, then it is quite possible that they might not have become victims of carless hunting accidents.



Could their accidents have been the result of that old bromide—"familiarity breeds contempt?" An intelligent sportsman certainly never thinks contemptuously of a firearm.

Ernest Hemingway had a healthy respect for every type of firearm, as does Bob Ruark, another big game hunter and sportsman. Other famous men have also expressed respect for firearms, including Presidents Theodore Roosevelt of Spanish-American War fame; William Howard Taft, Calvin Coolidge and Harry Truman.

In a typical tabulation of hunter casualties in 30 states and four Canadian provinces several years ago, 198 persons



Always grasp a weapon being handed to you butt first just in front of the trigger guard.



Always leave gates the way found. Farmers may revoke hunting privileges if you do not.

were listed killed during the fall-winter hunting season. More than 900 suffered injury.

Of the 1,100-odd accidents, 310 were caused by the victim. Victims unseen by shooters—most frequent cause of accidents—accounted for 26 per cent of the casualties. On a nation-wide basis, this type of accident has been reported by the *National Rifle Association* as accounting for 14 per cent of the casualties. Surely, this degree of carelessness cannot be condoned by firearms-conscious Americans.

One organization in the U.S. which has made a great contribution to shooting safety is the NRA. Since 1926, it has promoted a junior program for boys and girls under 19 years of age. NRA conducts a number of special shooting events for various youth groups.

The Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, in conjunction with the

NRA, sponsors more than 300 Junior Rifle Clubs active the year around, with more than 7,000 boys and girls participating. The V.F.W. feels youngsters should have the opportunity to receive training in gun safety and to experience the fellowship that is prevalent among marksmen and hunters of all ages. The V.F.W. program is directed by the National Youth Activities Committee with the cooperation and sanction of NRA.

A complete program is provided by the V.F.W. All that is needed to start a Junior Rifle Club are 10 interested boys and girls and an active adult leader. The V.F.W. program graduates through three cycles. The elementary phase features a 15-foot range and the

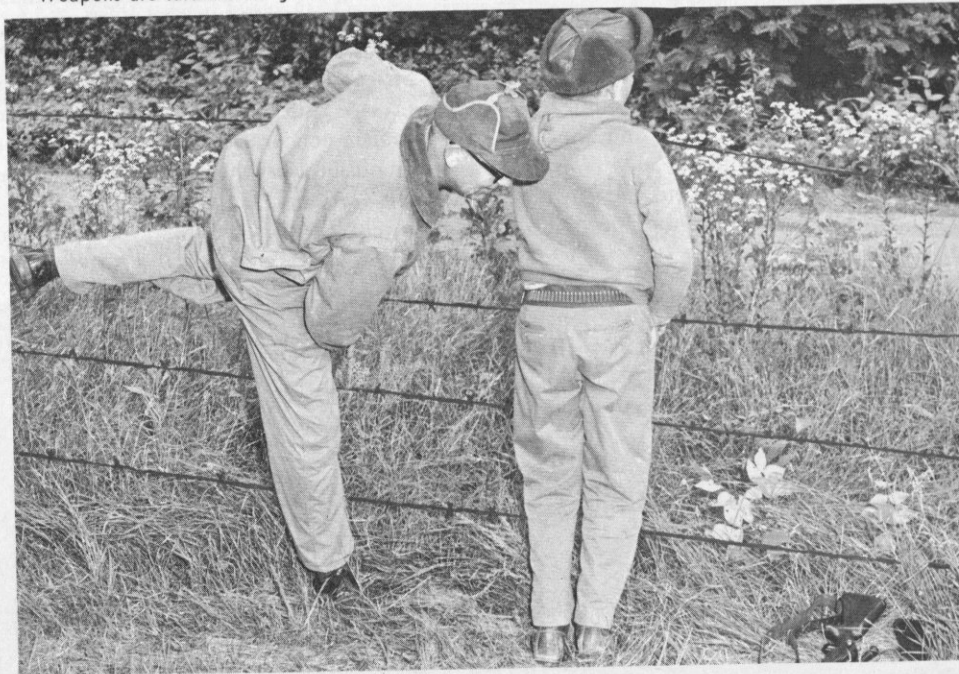
use of BB, or spring type air guns. The secondary stage utilizes a 25-foot range and CO<sub>2</sub> gas, or pneumatic-powered weapons. The advanced, and most popular program, is conducted on a 50-foot range with .22 caliber rifles. Affiliated with the NRA, these Junior Clubs are entitled to free use of .22 caliber rifles provided by the office of Civilian Marksmanship.

The V.F.W. currently plans to have its championship teams compete in regional NRA contests this coming spring.

Annually, the V.F.W. sends the National Junior Rifle Champion and a coach on an all-expense deer hunt trip to Eden, Texas. There the youth has the

(Continued on Page 44)

Weapons are laid on the ground before negotiating a barbed wire fence or other obstacle.







Members of the V.F.W. National Council of Administration and National Officers for 1962-63 pose for their official photograph at their annual meeting in Kansas City, Mo., on Sept. 29-30, 1962. **FRONT ROW**, left to right: National Council Members Charles D. Martin, Cheyenne, Wyo., District 13; Daniel S. Brady, Watertown, N.Y., District 3; Chief of Staff Dee Summers, Ririe, Idaho; Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief Joseph J. Lombardo, Brooklyn, N. Y.; Commander-in-Chief Byron B. Gentry, Pasadena, Calif.; Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief John A. Jenkins, Birmingham, Ala.; Judge Advocate General Andy Borg, Superior, Wis.; Quartermaster General J. A. Cheatham, Kansas City, Mo.; National Council Member James M. Wallace, Gastonia, N.C., District 7. **CENTER ROW**: Adjutant General Julian Dickenson, Kansas City, Mo.; Surgeon General Guy C. Richardson, M.D., Bristol, Va.; National Council Members E. Eugene Wilder, Sainte Genevieve, Mo., District 10; Frank N. Brown, Sun Prairie, Wis., District 12; Daley E. Whipple, Fitzwilliam, N.H., District 1; National Chaplain Rev. Earl V. Best, Indianapolis, Ind.; National Council Members James R. Brooks, Rockville, Md., District 5; Fred K. McDaniel, Roseville, Mich., District 11; Charles E. Kinney, Newark, N.J., District 4; Boyd J. Rozen, Montesano, Wash., District 16. **BACK ROW**: National Council Members Ben R. Minshew, Mobile, Ala., District 8; Leslie M. Fry, Reno, Nev., District 17; Charles J. Perilloux, Baton Rouge, La., District 9; Rudolph F. Otero, Espanola, N. Mex., District 15; Joseph H. Cermak, Middleton, Conn., District 2; W. H. Wagner, Culbertson, Nebr., District 14; Richard W. Homan, Sugar Grove, W. Va., District 6; Joseph S. Hong, Anchorage, Alaska, District 18. Past Commander-in-Chief Robert E. Hansen, a member of the National Council, was absent. He was in Japan attending a conference of the Asian Peoples Anti-Communist League.

## Dynamic 1962-63 Program to Accelerate V.F.W. Activities on All Levels

**N**ATIONAL OFFICERS and members of the National Council of Administration met in Kansas City, Mo., Sept. 29-30 to formulate V.F.W. policies and act on business matters concerning the 1962-63 fiscal year. Prior to the conference, five important national committees convened in Kansas City. These were the Americanism Committee, Community Service Committee, Loyalty Day Committee, Youth Activities Committee and the Voice of Democracy Committee.

Commander-in-Chief Byron B. Gentry presided at the two-day meeting and was

assisted by all national and staff officers. The first order of business was the nomination and unanimous election of Comrade Herbert W. Irwin to the office of Assistant Quartermaster General. Comrade Irwin had been serving as a special assistant to Quartermaster General J. A. Cheatham.

In reporting on his first few weeks in office, Commander-in-Chief Gentry expressed his pleasure and extreme optimism concerning the work of members on all levels of the organization. He told the National Council members that he would like to utilize their knowledge and

experience in V.F.W. affairs as never before in building V.F.W. membership and prestige.

Commander-in-Chief Gentry said he was especially gratified with the success of the "Flying Membership Squadrons" to date. In this program, groups of national chair and staff officers undertake to bring the details of the current V.F.W. membership campaign directly to the attention of District and other local officers throughout the country. In this campaign the "Flying Squadrons" use air transportation for the most part and, in one-day meetings,

**RIGHT PHOTO**: The meeting of the 1962-63 National Youth Activities Committee at Kansas City, Mo., Sept. 15, 1962. Left to right: Andrew W. Clements, Post 6154, Morgan, Utah; Bernard F. Sullivan, Post 1448, Butte, Mont.; Charles E. Lucas, Post 3381, Old Town, Maine; Carl Batcha, Post 2874, Milwaukee, Wis.; Jack Mathieson, National Youth Activities Director, J. W. "Bill" Cole, Chairman, National Youth Activities Committee, Abilene, Texas, and Oscar R. "Dick" Hape, Post 4084, China Lake, Calif. **LEFT PHOTO**: The National Voice of Democracy Committee met on Sept. 16, 1962, in Kansas City, Mo. Left to right: Jack Mathieson, National Voice of Democracy Director; Joseph Scerra, Post 905, Gardner, Mass.; Ray Allen, Jr., Post 6332, Chicago, Ill.; Roland Dicken, Post 3973, Molalla, Ore.; Kenton Scott, Post 3513, Scottsdale, Ariz.; J. D. Hubbard, Post 5486, Marion, Ky.; James Allen, Post 693, Canton, Ohio; Grady Pittard, Jr., Chairman, Post 2872, Winterville, Ga.





A business matter of primary importance during the National Council meeting was the adoption of the organization's national budget. After more than 10 hours of discussion, the budget, presented by Past Commander-in-Chief Cooper T. Holt, Chairman of the National Budget and Finance Committee, was approved by the Council members.

Daniel S. Brady, Chairman of the Solicitations Committee, next informed the National Council members of several financial proposals that had been presented to his committee. All were rejected by vote of the Council.

"Our organization is recognized as a leading force in the Free World," Lombardo said. "There are open doors to the V.F.W. in Washington where officials are eager to call in our own officers to ask how our organization feels on certain matters of national and international importance."

Following Comrade Lombardo's remarks, Quartermaster General J. A. Cheatham delivered his report. Each member of the National Council was provided a complete audit listing the financial status of the organization to date. Cheatham also informed the members that an audit of the 1962 National Convention Corporation and the 1962 National Auxiliary Convention Committee would soon be mailed to them.

(Continued on page 43)



The 1962-63 National Americanism Committee, at its first meeting at V.F.W. National Headquarters in Kansas City, Mo., recently put strong emphasis upon development of new community patriotic educational programs by V.F.W. Posts and Auxiliaries. Plans were laid to step up such activities during the coming year. The committeemen shown are, left to right, Dewey Beauchamp, Asheville, N.C.; George W. Armstrong Marlow, Okla.; Committee Chairman Edward Papantonio, New York City; National Americanism Director Mark Kinsey, Julian Brisendine, Decatur, Ga.; Edward Duva, Leonardo, N.J.; Benjamin Hoden, Council Bluffs, Iowa; Stanley Hill, Blue Island, Ill.; Sam Leman, Bremen, Ind. Absent were Vice Chairman True Davis, St. Joseph, Mo.; Committeeman Pasquale Frisella, Wakefield, R. I.; H. R. Rainwater, San Diego, Calif.



The V.F.W. 1962-63 National Loyalty Day Committee announced that next year's program, sponsored by the V.F.W., will provide for more than a single day's observance. The committee discussed ways to broaden the loyalty concept when it held its first meeting at V.F.W. National Headquarters recently. The committee-men, shown here are, left to right, Malvin H. DeWeese, Rensselaer, Ind.; James L. Lusby, Putnam, Conn.; Committee Chairman Benny Dean of Gadsden, Ala.; National Loyalty Day Director Mark Kinsey and Committeeman Don S. Maupin, Moundsville, W. Va. Committeeman John T. Radko, Wilkes-Barre, Pa., was absent.

The 1962-63 V.F.W. National Community Service Committee, shown here at its first meeting in Kansas City recently, made new plans to stimulate community service work and predicted that participation will exceed last year's 92 per cent. Standing, left to right, are Mrs. Ann Wilkins of Birmingham, Ala., National Community Service Chairman, V.F.W. Ladies Auxiliary; Committee Chairman T. C. Selman, Greepart, Texas; Louis Post, Jr., Greenwood, Miss.; Vere Lipscomb, Yakima, Wash., National Director; Max Kinsey, Seated left to right, Ralph Tripp, Smithtown, N. Y.; Jay Stewart, Hays, Kans.; Edward Hartung, Springfield, Mass.; William Bowles, Maumee, Ohio; Arnold Ringstad, East Grand Forks, Minn., Joe T. Wood, Gainesville, Ga.





# The ICBM Buster!

by John DeMott

**E**L PASO, TEX.—In the best tradition of the American Frontier, the United States Army has been making its greatest effort to head off its enemies here at the pass.

Once home base for U.S. cavalrymen fighting to subdue hostile Indians led by such chiefs as Cochise and Geronimo, Ft. Bliss now serves as headquarters for the training of Uncle Sam's missile men.

It also serves as the center of an extensive complex of modern military installations in the El Paso area that includes the huge White Sands missile range extending more than 100 miles north of here into the New Mexico desert. It's at White Sands that the Army developed its Nike-Zeus missile, the nation's only weapon capable of shooting down an inter-continental ballistic missile.

A recent showdown between the Zeus and one of Uncle Sam's own ICBMs ended in a triumph for the Zeus. An Atlas missile fired from Point Magu in California was intercepted and destroyed by a Zeus launched from Kwajalein island in the South Pacific. After that the tension here melted away as it does following the climax of a TV western.

The visitor senses the excitement about Nike-Zeus in many ways—in the conversation over coffee at the officer's mess, in the chit-chat seasoning a bridge game, in the ladies lounge of the club, on a street corner in the city, at a suburban supermarket—even at La Fiesta night club in Juarez, Mexico, across the Rio Grande.

Wherever Americans involved in the crucial business going on here, get together, the conversation is certain to turn to Zeus.

It's been that way ever since the monarch of combat space was a baby. Only then the talk wasn't that of proud parents and grandparents, or doting uncles and aunts, but the hushed whisper of worried folk who feared their favorite might fail.

"Can the Zeus do it?" they asked one another in the days of initial testing here. "Can the Zeus bring down an ICBM?"

The thrilling answer to that question may hold the secret of our fate for many years to come. Since an ICBM can be shot down by an anti-missile missile like the Zeus, then the nation's defense need not be one of retaliation only, and millions of lives and hundreds of cities need not be lost in the initial phase of a nuclear battle.

In anticipation that Zeus could do the job, Uncle Sam had been putting a lot of money into the program here—a million dollars a day, according to a rough computation. So it's obvious to any taxpayer that the Army was betting a lot on its latest triumph.

Until the recent success over the Pacific, however, in which the Zeus demonstrated for the first time that it could intercept and destroy an actual ICBM traveling at supersonic speed toward its target, the program was still more or less in the nature of a scientific experiment.

Call it a gamble, if you will, but the Army's missile men were confident from the start that they were going to win.

You ask a high-ranking officer here why he's so dedicated to Zeus.

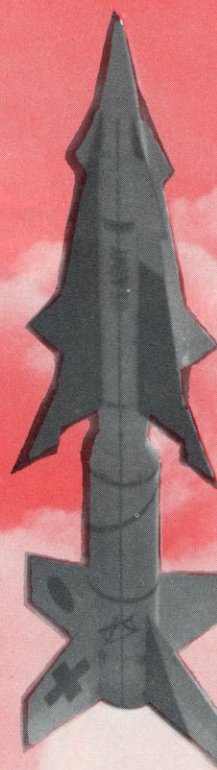
"Because it's the only thing we have," he replies, "offering a real defense against the ICBM."

Like the hero in an old frontier thriller movie, the missileman explains, Zeus lets the bad guy go for his gun first. Before the bad guy can kill anybody, however, the good guy whips out his own trusty six-shooter and drills the villain right between the eyes.

Only Zeus goes even a step further than Wyatt Earp. Not even the famed marshal of Wichita could intercept a bad guy's bullet after it left the gun barrel; destroying the lethal lead in mid-air so that it fell to the ground harmlessly.

That's what Zeus did, however, to the ICBM over the South Pacific.

No wonder the folks here saw the South Pacific test as the most satisfying showdown since Tom Mix quit making movies.

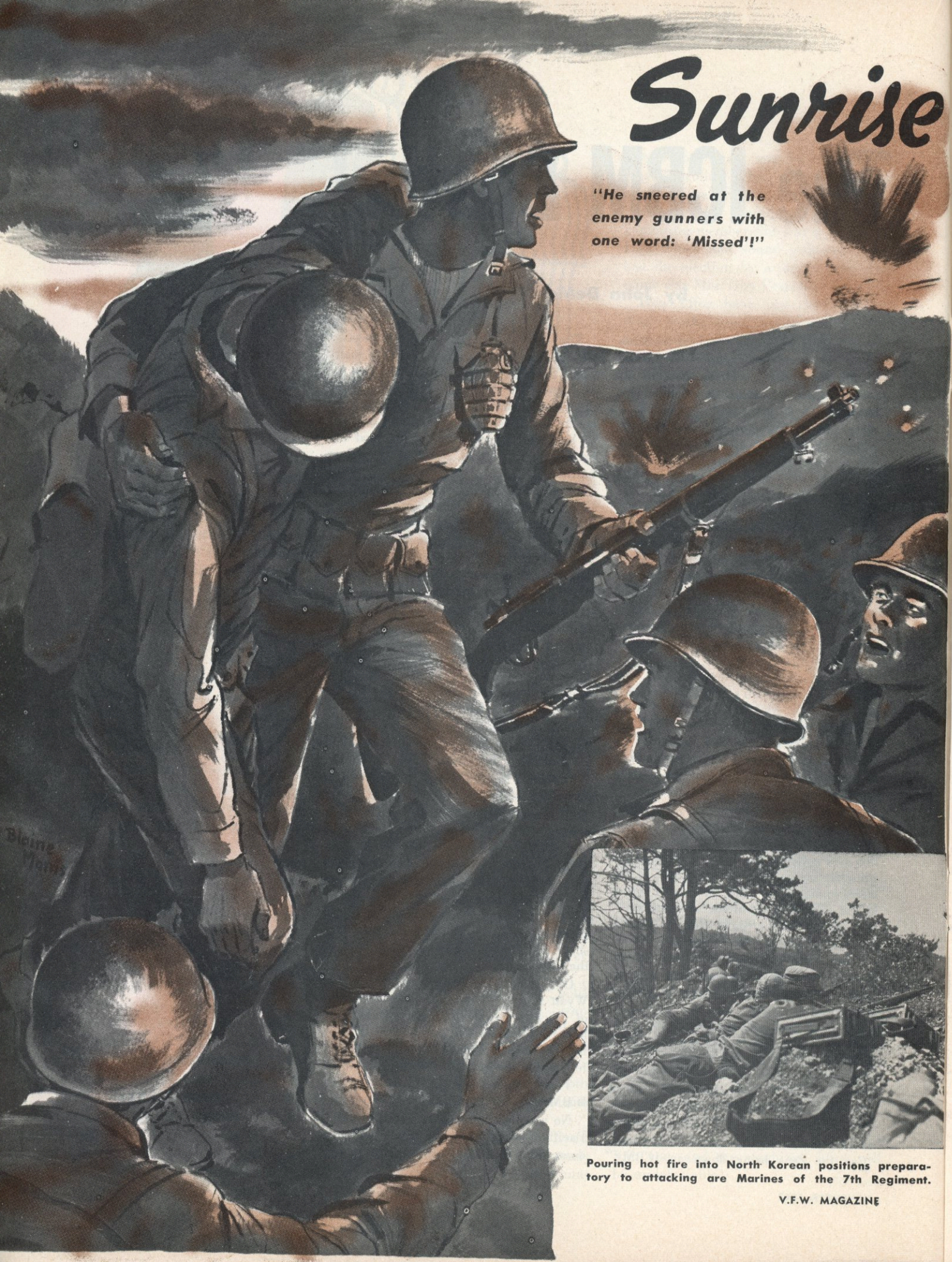


A Nike-Zeus missile is test fired at the White Sands Missile Range in New Mexico near El Paso.



# Sunrise

"He sneered at the enemy gunners with one word: 'Missed!'"



Pouring hot fire into North Korean positions preparatory to attacking are Marines of the 7th Regiment.

V.F.W. MAGAZINE



# on HILL 749

By Alfred Martinez

**One Marine Held Fox Company's Luck — And He Held It As Long As They Needed It.**

SOMEDAY I'm going back to Korea and walk over the ground we took 11 years ago in our drive on Hill 749. I want to stand alone on the ridge-line that Fox Company held through a September night in 1951 and see if I can hear the battle cry of Private Joe Citera roll over the high ground. Then I'm going to kick at the loose earth in search of a cardboard monument to the man who gave us a sunrise.

Citera was no ordinary Marine. He defies use of the word courageous, because it is difficult to class as brave a man who danced a conga through an artillery barrage—even though it was to rally a battalion. He was more than brave. His life was delicately tuned to the moods of his company. On the face of him, Joe was a buffoon. Without knowing what he did at every step, he could have been dangerous to have around. But he knew, and died proving it.

Joe joined the First Marine Division in the dry, discouraging June of the second year of the Korean War. He was barely eighteen, a freshly-scrubbed replacement for combat from the green ranks of boot camp graduates. He ambled far behind the others up the slope

to join Fox Company that first day on the lines—a tall, loose-jointed Marine, his ears bent out under the edge of his steel helmet, a bright, foolish grin on his face. His first words to a company commander who scowled disapproval at his unhurried pace was a disarming, "Be grateful I came at all."

Joe sensitized himself quickly to the posture of warfare and adjusted accordingly. When he walked from fox-hole to foxhole the day he joined us, greeting everyone in sight, it was as though he had been with us from the beginning. His first patrol revealed the same familiarity with trouble.

It was a patrol transformed by the lightning of war from an easy, lazy stroll to the terror of a mortar attack. We raced for cover and looked breathlessly back to see the fire team leader lying in the middle of an open rice paddy, writhing from the pain of a twisted ankle. Enemy shells fell sporadically around him at first, then bunched up in a dedicated effort to kill the one man.

Joe hesitated for seconds, then left his shelter walking upright. He headed in a straight line for the hurt fire team leader. The man waved him away, but

Joe reached his side, helped him to his feet and half carried him to the protection of a gorge in a rain of thumping mortars. Then, as if to destroy any illusion of courage, he punctuated the feat with a sneer at the enemy hills and one word to their gunners: "Missed."

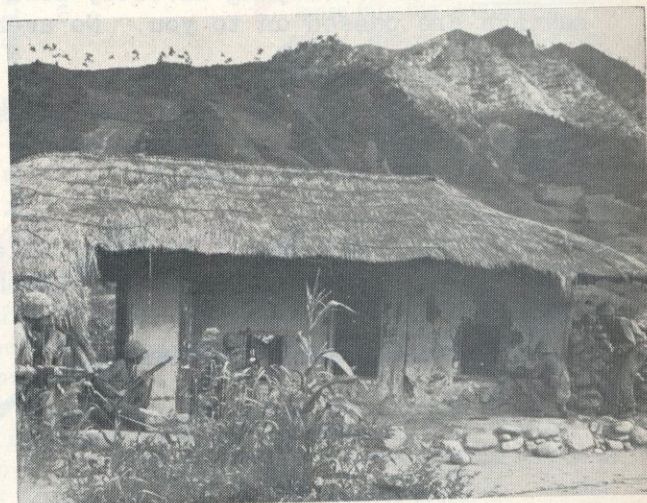
Joe courted death, but he lived no death-wish. It was simply a part of his mission in war, and he accepted the role calmly. Once he pulled the company out of a dangerous pre-battle slump by stumbling around the trigger-tense front lines the night before a major attack and calling for a pair of shoes he had taken from a dead Chinese soldier. He swore they were haunted and had walked off by themselves. Another time he almost started a riot, but shook the company's strangling depression, by ending a work party for mail with the chilling shout of "Incoming mail!"—the dreaded front line slang for incoming artillery.

Who was Joe? A sort of Pagliacci, I suppose; sad because he missed his home in Greenpoint, Brooklyn; sad because he reached young manhood without a mother and father; sad because he hated war and what it did to those

(Continued on page 50)



Marines slog through the muck of a rice paddy with field packs and weapons in Feb., 1951. Their objective—the hill beyond.



Marines cautiously approach a Korean hut to flush out enemy snipers. The hut has been partially destroyed by artillery.



# HOME TOWN HAILS GENTRY

THE NEW COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF OF THE VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS IS GIVEN A ROUSING WELCOME IN PASADENA, CALIFORNIA

**B**YRON B. GENTRY, Commander-in-Chief of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, was given a triumphal welcome in his home town of Pasadena, Calif., upon his return there from the V.F.W. National Convention in Minneapolis where he was elected to the high office.

More than 600 persons attended a banquet in Gentry's honor held at the Huntington-Sheraton Hotel. An impressive procession of leaders from all levels of government, the Armed Services and veterans organizations, took the podium to commend Gentry for his achievements in sports, the law, law enforcement, World War II, and in the V.F.W.

Rear Admiral John S. McCain, Jr., Chief of the U. S. Navy Department of Information, was the principal speaker.

"An outstanding man to lead an outstanding patriotic organization in perilous times," was the way the Admiral described Gentry.

The Admiral said Gentry's impressive list of military decorations . . . "is proof that he knows the score as the battle for survival is joined. Under Gentry the V.F.W. will be an even more powerful influence for a strong and sound defense and foreign policy."

Pasadena Mayor C. Lewis Edwards extended the official welcome to Gentry from the city. He was followed by another Pasadenan who rose to the top position in the American Legion in 1952—Lewis K. Gough.

Don C. McMillan, Pasadena City Manager, congratulated the V.F.W. upon having selected Gentry as its National Commander-in-Chief. To illustrate the philosophical and patriotic depths of the new Commander-in-Chief, McMillan read excerpts from speeches made by Gentry on various occasions, and parts of poems authored by him.

An outstanding career as Commander-in-Chief of the V.F.W. was predicted for Gentry by James W. Cothran, Bishopville, S.C., who served in that office during the year 1952-53.

Also extending praise and congratulations to the new Commander-in-Chief,



Commander-in-Chief Byron B. Gentry (left) at the banquet given in his honor during the recent home-coming celebration for him in Pasadena, Calif. Among the distinguished guests greeting the V.F.W. Chief were, left to right, Rear Admiral John S. McCain, Jr., Chief of the U.S. Navy Department of Information; Mayor C. Lewis Edwards, Pasadena; Sheriff Peter Pitchess, Los Angeles County and Department Commander H. W. Straley, V.F.W. Department of California.

was Mrs. Elfrieda Tice, Mitchell, S.D., National President of the V.F.W. Auxiliary. She also presented a gift to Mrs. Ruth Gentry, wife of the new Commander-in-Chief.

An illuminated resolution commending Gentry as a scholar, soldier and American, officially adopted by the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors, was presented Gentry by Harold W. Kennedy, County Counsel and Warren Dorn, a County District Supervisor.

"With men like Gentry in America, we need have no fear of the Communists taking over," said Lynn P. Lee, Chairman of the California Veterans Board.

In response, Gentry said:

"I will endeavor to live up to the flattering appraisal of these speakers."

Gentry said that since he had been elected Commander-in-Chief, he had met with General Douglas MacArthur and Dean Rusk, U. S. Secretary of State.

"I discovered that this is a more important job than I had anticipated," said Gentry. "I promise to do my best to live up to it. I will do all I can to further the interests of Americanism and the welfare of this country."

Souvenir programs prepared for the event included a large picture of Gentry in a V.F.W. overseas cap, flanked by two American flags. The inscription carried these words:

"War makes strange bequests. In the wake of its paradoxical evil, inevitably appear two soldiers—an unknown and a known. One commands with eloquent silence. The other undertakes to breathe life and purpose into the symbolism. Tonight we honor one of America's outstanding soldiers—Byron Gentry—leader of a vast legion of men who have honorably discharged a duty to their God, their country and their conscience."

The event of Gentry's homecoming received wide publicity in the Pasadena locale. One paper, the *Independent Star-News*, put out a special "Home-coming" edition honoring the new V.F.W. chief.

Gentry has been granted a one-year leave of absence from his post as City Prosecutor of Pasadena so that he can devote full time to his new office as V.F.W. Commander-in-Chief. Gentry, who is 49 years old, has been City Prosecutor for Pasadena since 1950.



# NEW V.F.W. GROUP ACCIDENT INSURANCE PLAN IS SURE-FIRE MEMBERSHIP BOOSTER!

**A**LL V.F.W. POSTS now have until Dec. 31, 1962, to take advantage of a tremendous opportunity—the opportunity to subscribe to the amazing new group accident insurance plan being offered by the national organization in co-operation with the Continental Casualty Company of Chicago, Ill.

The enrollment period for the new plan was extended from the original deadline date of Oct. 1, 1962, because of the unprecedented enthusiasm of V.F.W. members for the insurance program and because of the great membership building potential involved. The plan provides liberal protection benefits for all members of participating Posts and *also covers* all new members who subsequently join these Posts during the insurance year—at no additional cost to the Post.

If your Post has not presented the new Accidental Death and Dismemberment Insurance Plan to its members it is urged to discuss this important benefit at your next meeting. All V.F.W. Posts have received complete information relative to this insurance plan and Post Officers should now be in a position to present the plan clearly to V.F.W. Post members so that action can be taken on accepting the plan prior to the December 31 deadline.

Benefits accruing to veterans throughout the years have been numerous and the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States has played a very important role in representing the best interests of all veterans through protection and preservation of a well deserved veteran benefit program. Now we are making available an Accidental Death and Dismemberment Insurance Plan designed exclusively for members of the Veterans of Foreign Wars. This plan is made possible through the advantages of group purchasing and can only be obtained on a V.F.W. Post basis providing coverage for 100% of the Post membership—even including members who are delinquent in their current dues. How any particular Post decides to pay the premium is an individual matter, but it can be done in a number of ways. Individual members could pay their premium, a fund raising campaign conducted, or the entire amount paid from the Post general fund. The matter of how to pay the premium is of concern to each V.F.W. Post member and for that reason it is important that all members be informed about the plan.

Previous issues of *V.F.W. Magazine* have fully explained the mechanics of this insurance plan and in this article we will deal only with the plan as it might affect the individual V.F.W. Post member. The plan provides a basic \$1,000.00 Accidental Death and Dismemberment benefit for members of insured Posts for the very nominal cost of \$1.25 per member per year. In addition, for each year the Post coverage remains continuously in force and the member maintains his membership continuity, (up to four years) the principal sum benefit increases by \$250.00 to a maximum additional indemnity of \$1,000.00. In other words after four years of continuous participation by the Post and the V.F.W. member the principal sum benefit has increased to \$2,000.00.

A double indemnity feature is incorporated into the plan providing that if death results from an accident occurring while the insured member is in or on property owned or leased by the Post, County Council, District, Department or National V.F.W. organization while in attendance at or participating in any activity sponsored and supervised by proper authority

of the Post, County Council, District, Department or National V.F.W. organization the benefit otherwise payable is doubled (up to a \$4,000.00 maximum). Double indemnity does not apply while traveling to or from such activity. In essence this means that a V.F.W. member who meets with accidental death under the provisions described would have a minimum of \$2,000.00 and a maximum of \$4,000.00 insurance which he has obtained for the ridiculously low cost of \$1.25 per year. The provisions covering all benefits under this plan have been made clear in literature forwarded to each V.F.W. Post and your Post Commander will be happy to supply you with this data.

Let's take a look at what this insurance plan can mean to the individual V.F.W. member. In the first place we must recognize that many members of the Veterans of Foreign Wars follow hazardous occupations which would in many instances prevent them from obtaining this type of insurance. Also, we are aware that many of our members have reached an age when obtaining this insurance coverage is next to impossible. Many of our members have physical disabilities or health problems which would preclude them from obtaining this insurance on an individual basis. None of the foregoing would preclude the V.F.W. member from enjoying the comfort and satisfaction of having insurance under the plan now available to him. Payment of your V.F.W. dues and participation in the plan by your Post provides you with the insurance without any physical examination, or going through any of the routine which is required when purchasing insurance on an individual basis.

How often in the past has your Post lost one of its members through an untimely accidental death? No doubt you can think of several former V.F.W. members who have lost their lives in accidents of one form or another. In each of such cases can you imagine how welcome an additional \$1,000.00 to \$4,000.00 worth of insurance would have been to the families and beneficiaries of the deceased? Every V.F.W. member would take pride and satisfaction in the knowledge that he was participating in an insurance plan which could very possibly be of benefit to one of his comrades, as well as providing insurance protection on himself and for his loved ones. Those who have devoted long hours in preparing and submitting this Death and Dismemberment Insurance Plan to V.F.W. Posts and their members are of the opinion that participation in the plan could be a real boon to increased V.F.W. membership. In the first place it is a very tangible benefit to be offered to prospective new V.F.W. members and to those who may have belonged to the Veterans of Foreign Wars in past years but who have allowed their membership to lapse.

The plan also furnishes incentive for V.F.W. members to maintain their membership on a continuous basis as the escalator feature of the plan increases the member's benefits during each of the first four years of his participation. A great many V.F.W. members have for several years felt that we should incorporate some type of insurance plan with the many benefits already existing for veterans. It has been their hope that we would some day have a plan which would apply strictly to our own Veterans of Foreign Wars membership. It has been through the insistence of these comrades that the present insurance plan was prepared and submitted to the V.F.W. Posts throughout our organization. It is our sincere opinion that if properly presented on the Post level this plan will receive enthusiastic support and that it could become a very important part of our membership recruiting program.

[The End]



# National Affairs



## V.F.W. Chief Denounces Cuban-Russian "Fishing Port"

V.F.W. COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF, Byron B. Gentry, Pasadena, Calif., has termed the proposed Cuban-Russian fishing port "outrageous" and stated: "This once again underlines the need for an immediate blockade around Cuba."

Expressing the V.F.W.'s position, Gentry said: "The announcement that the Soviet Union will construct port facilities for a so-called fishing fleet clearly demonstrates how rapidly the Kremlin is developing Cuba into a Red base for future operations in the Western Hemisphere. We must not forget that port facilities for a modern high seas fishing trawler can also provide the repair and maintenance for surface naval vessels. Anyone who assumes that a Russian built port will be used only for fishing vessels just isn't being realistic."

Commander-in-Chief Gentry pointed out that the V.F.W.'s call for a blockade was based upon the realization that Soviet submarines based in Cuba would impair the approach to the Panama Canal as well as the shipping lanes between North and South America. He said:

"If the Soviet Union builds a port in Cuba, that shipyard may well be used for servicing a lot more than fishing boats. This will make it easier for the Kremlin's so-called fishing fleet to keep the U. S. East Coast, including Cape Canaveral under closer observation. It will no longer be necessary for Russian ships to return to East European ports for maintenance."

"A Red port in Cuba," the V.F.W. leader continued, "would constitute a threat of major magnitude to the United States. We must take steps now, such as an effective Naval blockade of Cuba, to prevent the Communist submarines from having a Cuban base from which to patrol the Caribbean, the approach to the Panama Canal, the Gulf of Mexico, and the off-shore waters of the United States."

Commander-in-Chief Gentry concluded by pointing out that delay by the U. S. for not answering the Cuban situation is more serious now than it was a month or a year ago, and unless we act it will be worse next month and next year than it is now. He said the time has come for the United States to act positively in order to prevent the Red toe-hold in Cuba from being built into a strong-hold.



COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF Byron B. Gentry (right) as he appeared recently during an interview over the Mutual Broadcasting System's "World Today" program. Shown interviewing Gentry is Tony Marvin, noted commentator.

## Russell H. Ingersoll

RUSSELL H. "BOB" INGERSOLL, 86, of Denver, Colo., a charter member of V.F.W. Post 1, Denver, died August 8 at the Veterans Administration hospital there. Until his death, Ingersoll was one of nine surviving founders of the Post which is the oldest one of continuous existence recognized by the V.F.W.

Ingersoll was born in Carrollton, Mo., and moved to Denver with his family in 1879. He enlisted in "E" Company of the 1st Colorado Infantry in May of 1898 and served with that unit as a corporal, first sergeant and second lieutenant. His regiment saw action in the Philippine Insurrection of 1898-99.

As a member of Post 1, Ingersoll served as Adjutant in 1912, Commander in 1914, and Chaplain in 1918. He is survived by a sister. Services and cremation took place in Denver, August 10.



A V.F.W. DELEGATION headed by Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief Joseph J. Lombardo (fourth from right) recently visited the New York Naval Shipyard, Brooklyn, N.Y., where they presented citations to Rear Adm. E. C. Holtzworth, USN, Shipyard Commander. The citation presented by Lombardo expressed appreciation for the Admiral's participation in the 1962 Loyalty Day observance. The other citation was presented in behalf of the Shipyard's Veterans Association of Federal Employees by Harry Yannone, Commander of VAFE and Senior Vice Commander of V.F.W. Post 6398, West Hempstead, N.Y. Left to right: Commander Louis Hammer, Post 110, Brooklyn, N. Y., VAFE Senior Vice Commander; Chester Zarnecki, VAFE Junior Vice Commander; Yannone, Admiral Holtzworth, Lombardo, V.F.W. Dept. of New York Senior Vice Commander Heyman Rothbart, Stanley Banasiak, VAFE Quartermaster; and Guy Fiocco, VAFE Adjutant.

# National Home

**NEW ASSISTANT MANAGER:** James W. Nelson has been selected as the new Assistant Manager of the V.F.W. National Home at Eaton Rapids, Mich. Mr. Nelson is 35 years old, married, and has three children. He is a graduate of the University of Denver.

**BASEBALL:** The National Home baseball team comprised of older boys swept its league with a 5-0 record to win an Eaton Rapids championship. The Home sponsored five clubs in all; three boys and two girls. One team won a Sportsmanship award and all finished well in their leagues.

**SCHOOL:** There are 187 National Home youths now enrolled in Eaton Rapids schools. Some of the boys have gone out for football and others are engaged in a variety of school activities.

**HOSPITAL EQUIPMENT:** The Ladies Auxiliary of the Department of Texas provided more than \$1,900 recently for the purchase of hospital equipment at the Home.

**CHRISTMAS:** The annual Cootie Christmas party has been set for Sunday, December 16, and shopping for presents was begun October 1. This shopping is expected to continue until Christmas Eve.

**VISITORS:** A large number of visitors have been coming regularly to the National Home. The largest delegations recently came on Indiana Day—September 16, and Ohio Day—September 29. Many visitors from Missouri also attended on the 29th. The Rev. and Mrs. Earl Best were also recent visitors. Rev. Best is the new V.F.W. National Chaplain.



## COMMANDERS OF THE MONTH



Harry W. Straley  
CALIFORNIA



Robert Jenkins  
INDIANA



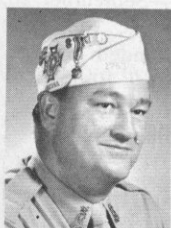
R. D. Smith  
GEORGIA



Harry Wilters, Jr.  
ALABAMA



Vernon E. Charlton  
OKLAHOMA



W. George Gamard  
ARIZONA



William Burrell  
DIST. OF COLUMBIA

• As the 1962-63 Commanders-of-the-Month contest gets underway the first Department Commanders to win the coveted titles are pictured in the monthly honor column here.

The Commanders-of-the-Month for September are: Harry W. Straley, Div. I, Calif.; Robert Jenkins, Div. II, Indiana; R. D. Smith, Div. III, Ga.; Harry Wilters, Jr., Div. IV, Alabama; Vernon E. Charlton, Div. V, Oklahoma; W. George Gamard, Div. VI, Arizona; William Burrell, Div. VII, District of Columbia.

Commanders-of-the-Month will be selected each month on the basis of per capita tax transmittals received at the National Headquarters in comparison to 1961-62 membership strength.

## Rehabilitation

### VA Predicts Average Age Of GI Home Loans

GI HOME MORTGAGES, guaranteed by the Veterans Administration, have an average life expectancy ranging from about eight years to 16½ years, according to a recent VA survey.

The loans with an average life expectancy of eight years were those with an original maturity of 15 years or less, while those estimated to have a 16½-year average life expectancy were loans with an original maturity of 30 years. The 20-year loans are expected to stay on the books of private lenders for almost 11 years and the 25-year loans for nearly 14 years.

The estimates were based on the actual termination experience on GI home loans from the beginning of the program in 1944 through 1960 and an estimated projection of termination rates during the remaining life of each mortgage group.

The VA stressed that the estimated life expectancies are averages, and that many of the loans will be held to their maturity.

Loan terminations, as used in the study, were those loans reported by lenders as paid in full, plus a small percentage of loans ended by foreclosures.

Most of the paid-in-full loans, VA believes, resulted from the sale of homes by veterans moving into larger homes or to different localities. GI loans may be paid off in full at any time without penalty to the veteran borrower.

VA said that nearly two million home loans totaling more than \$13 billion have been paid in full. Since the program started, 5,800,000 GI home loans, valued at more than \$52 billion, were granted.

VA has had to pay claims on only 93,000 home loans, about 1.6 per cent of the total number closed.

### Fallout Shelters for VA Hospitals

TAKING ADVANTAGE of Department of Defense funds, the Veterans Administration has announced it will install radiation fallout shelters in six of its hospitals.

The pilot shelter will be constructed in the new VA hospital at Jackson, Miss. Other VA hospitals to have shelters in their construction are the ones at Washington, D.C.; Martinez, Calif.; Nashville, Tenn.; Cleveland, Ohio; Houston, Texas.

Plans for future hospitals are all expected to be altered to provide such shelters, and surveys are being made to construct them in established facilities as well.

In conjunction with the shelters, shielded areas where radiation is reduced below the outside level to a marked degree, are to be provided in a few existing hospitals and those the VA plans building at Wood, Wis.; Charleston, S.C.; Atlanta, Ga.; Miami, Fla., and Memphis, Tenn. Conversion of shielded areas to shelters is accomplished by providing them with emergency electrical power, ventilation and supplies. Shelters will be utilized in normal hospital operation in addition to providing emergency protection.

### Veterans Insurance to Undergo Speed-up

NEW ELECTRONIC communications equipment capable of transmitting information over telephone lines at a rate of 3,000 words per minute has recently been installed at the VA Insurance Processing Center in Philadelphia.

It will be the first step in a communications improvement program being instituted by the Veterans Administration for its Department of Insurance. Major insurance centers at Denver, Colo., and St. Paul, Minn., will be similarly equipped later.

An order to install the magnetic tape terminals was received by the Digitronics Corporation, April 3. Its operation is expected to considerably reduce the time presently required to process veterans insurance accounts and correspondence.



BEING GREETED upon arrival at the Findlay, Ohio, Airport recently to take part in a city Sesqui-centennial, is District Commander Frank Beckley, Post 2947, Fremont, Ohio (center). Beckley was accompanied by George Demmel (left), Fremont City Council President and Commander William DuBose Post 2947 (left center). Welcoming Beckley is Commander Jack Davis Post 5645, Findlay. E. Harlan Struble, Findlay City Council President, sports derby at right, Beckley reviewed a parade.



# Membership

## National Aides-de-Camp

THE FOLLOWING V.F.W. members have distinguished themselves by winning appointments as National Aides-de-Camp, Recruiting Class, during the month of September.

To be eligible for this award, a member must collect the 1963 dues of at least 50 new and/or reinstated members.

The new appointments are as follows: Eddie M. Stewart, Post 2702, Huntsville, Ala.; Jack F. Ivy, Post 2702, Huntsville, Ala.; Rex L. Bryant, Post 3454, Andalusia, Ala.; Albert D. Hall, Post 4447, Helena, Ark.; Walter J. Ferguson, Post 9756, San Diego, Calif.; J. L. McInnes, Post 3034, Sumter, S. C.; Bill Reynolds, Post 4848, Chattanooga, Tenn.; J. C. Hickman, Post 5154, Alcoa, Tenn.

## Southern Conference Takes Lead in Membership Battle

SPARKED BY its come from behind triumph in last year's competition, the Southern Conference Army has seized an early lead in this year's membership drive. It has already recruited 11.30 per cent of its last year's total membership compared to rival Western Army's 10.58 per cent.

Things are slower in the midwest and East. The Big Ten Army reports only 7.75 per cent and its Eastern Army foe, 1.52 per cent.

Army standings were determined by per capita tax transmittals received at National Headquarters postmarked through September 30.

## give him a gift that lasts a LIFETIME

### A Life Membership in the Veterans of Foreign Wars

Any member in good standing who was born before Jan. 1, 1902, or who served in World War I, can become a life member for \$50. For Spanish-American war veterans the fee is \$24; for members who have passed their 50th birthday the fee is \$75; for other members, \$100. Following the payment of the specified dues to the Post Quartermaster, the life member will not be subject to further levies.

• Get a life membership application from the Quartermaster of your Post.

## SEVEN DIVISION CONTEST

• All standings are based on per capita tax transmittals received at National Headquarters and postmarked through Sept. 30, 1962

### DIVISION I

(Departments over 45,000)

1. California .....	13.09
2. Minnesota .....	9.34
3. Illinois .....	8.34
4. Michigan .....	3.67
5. Ohio .....	2.80
6. New York .....	0.79
7. Pennsylvania .....	.00

### DIVISION II

(Departments between 30,000 and 45,000)

1. Indiana .....	23.00
2. Kansas .....	12.67
3. Texas .....	5.44
4. New Jersey .....	4.40
5. Massachusetts .....	.00

### DIVISION III

(Departments between 20,000 and 30,000)

1. Georgia .....	25.60
2. Nebraska .....	15.48
3. Iowa .....	13.45
4. Missouri .....	10.23
5. Wisconsin .....	3.34
6. Tennessee .....	.00

### DIVISION IV

(Departments between 15,000 and 20,000)

1. Alabama .....	26.78
2. Kentucky .....	13.74
3. West Virginia .....	12.11
4. North Carolina .....	11.99
5. Connecticut .....	11.40
6. Washington .....	5.44
7. Mississippi .....	.00

### DIVISION V

(Departments between 10,000 and 15,000)

1. Oklahoma .....	16.92
2. Virginia .....	16.15
3. Florida .....	13.00
4. Louisiana .....	8.15
5. Maryland .....	6.15
6. Colorado .....	2.36
7. South Dakota .....	1.12

### DIVISION VI

(Departments between 5,000 and 10,000)

1. Arizona .....	24.77
2. Arkansas .....	15.47
3. Wyoming .....	13.59
4. South Carolina .....	10.80
5. Maine .....	7.30
6. Rhode Island .....	7.18
7. Oregon .....	4.57
8. Montana .....	.00
9. New Hampshire .....	.00
10. New Mexico .....	.00
11. North Dakota .....	.00

### DIVISION VII

(Departments under 5,000)

1. Dist. of Columbia .....	13.67
2. Nevada .....	8.31
3. Utah .....	7.22
4. Idaho .....	6.74
5. Alaska .....	2.17
6. Delaware .....	1.18
7. Panama Canal Zone .....	.37
8. Vermont .....	.00
9. Hawaii .....	.00

## ORDER OF PARADE

NATIONAL AVERAGE—7.31

1. Alabama .....	26.78	27. Rhode Island .....	7.18
2. Georgia .....	25.60	28. Idaho .....	6.74
3. Arizona .....	24.77	29. Maryland .....	6.15
4. Indiana .....	23.00	*30. Texas .....	5.44
5. Oklahoma .....	16.92	30. Washington .....	5.44
6. Virginia .....	16.15	*32. Oregon .....	4.57
*7. Nebraska .....	15.48	33. New Jersey .....	4.49
8. Arkansas .....	15.47	*34. Michigan .....	3.67
9. Kentucky .....	13.74	*35. Wisconsin .....	3.34
10. Dist. of Columbia .....	13.67	36. Ohio .....	2.80
11. Wyoming .....	13.59	*37. Colorado .....	2.36
12. Iowa .....	13.45	*38. Alaska .....	2.17
13. California .....	13.09	39. Delaware .....	1.18
14. Florida .....	13.00	*40. South Dakota .....	1.12
15. Kansas .....	12.67	*41. New York .....	0.79
*16. West Virginia .....	12.11	42. Panama Canal Zone .....	0.37
*17. North Carolina .....	11.99	43. Hawaii .....	0
18. Connecticut .....	11.40	44. Massachusetts .....	0
*19. South Carolina .....	10.80	*45. Mississippi .....	0
20. Missouri .....	10.23	46. Montana .....	0
21. Minnesota .....	9.34	47. New Hampshire .....	0
22. Illinois .....	8.34	*48. New Mexico .....	0
23. Nevada .....	8.31	49. North Dakota .....	0
*24. Louisiana .....	8.15	50. Pennsylvania .....	0
25. Maine .....	7.30	*51. Tennessee .....	0
*26. Utah .....	7.22	52. Vermont .....	0

\* These Departments are behind the membership totals established for the same date last year.



# ★

## NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

### Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States

General Orders No. 2

1962-63 Series

1. The following appointments are hereby announced:

#### *National Americanism Committee:*

Edward Papantonio, Chairman, Post 271, Bronx, New York  
 True Davis, Vice Chairman, Post 1668, St. Joseph, Missouri  
 Edward Duva, Post 2179, Middletown, New Jersey  
 Julian M. Brisendine, Post 5290, Conyers, Georgia  
 Samuel E. Leman, Post 8972, Bremen, Indiana  
 Dewey Beauchamp, Post 891, Asheville, North Carolina  
 H. R. Rainwater, Post 1774, San Diego, California  
 Stanley Hill, Post 3580, Blue Island, Illinois  
 George W. Armstrong, Post 4888, Marlow, Oklahoma  
 Pasquale D. Frisella, Post 916, Peace Dale, Rhode Island  
 Benjamin R. Hoden, Post 737, Council Bluffs, Iowa

#### *National Loyalty Day Committee:*

Thomas B. Dean, Chairman, Post 2760, Gadsden, Alabama  
 Malvin H. Dewees, Vice Chairman, Post 1279, Rensselaer, Indiana  
 Don S. Maupin, Post 437, Moundsville, West Virginia  
 John T. Radko, Post 5267, Wilkes Barre, Pennsylvania  
 James L. Lusby, Post 1523, Putnam, Connecticut  
 John Chambers, Post 2755, Redfield, South Dakota

#### *National Youth Activities Committee:*

J. W. "Bill" Cole, Chairman, Post 2012, Abilene, Texas  
 Bernard F. Sullivan, Post 1448, Butte, Montana  
 Andrew W. Clements, Post 6154, Morgan, Utah  
 Charles E. Lucas, Post 3381, Old Town, Maine  
 Oscar R. Hape, Post 4084, Ridgcrest, California  
 Carl M. Batcha, Post 2874, Milwaukee, Wisconsin

#### *National Voice of Democracy Program:*

Grady C. Pittard, Jr., Chairman, Post 2872, Athens, Georgia  
 James Allen, Post 693, Canton, Ohio  
 J. D. Hubbard, Post 5486, Sturgis, Kentucky  
 Joseph A. Scerra, Post 905, Gardner, Massachusetts  
 Kenton E. Scott, Post 3513, Scottsdale, Arizona  
 Ray R. Allen, Jr., Post 6332, Chicago, Illinois  
 Ronald Dicken, Post 3973, Molalla, Oregon

#### *National Legislative Committee:*

Arthur H. Tryon, Chairman, Post 1717, Los Angeles, California  
 T. C. Connell, Vice Chairman, Post 9192, Killeen, Texas  
 David S. Taylor, Post 3354, Laurens, South Carolina  
 Judge John G. Brosky, Post 331, Carnegie, Pennsylvania  
 David C. Doten, Post 1965, Memphis, Tennessee  
 E. K. Collins, Post 3042, Laurel, Mississippi  
 Robert E. Hansen, Post 295, South St. Paul, Minnesota  
 Morris J. Krouse, Post 112, Wichita, Kansas  
 E. Spencer Walton, Post 360, Mishawaka, Indiana  
 Leonard E. Friedlander, Post 1019, Albany, New York  
 Sverre Roang, Post 2708, Edgerton, Wisconsin  
 Roy E. Frazier, Jr., Post 2055, Centralia, Illinois  
 Edward J. Zamm, Post 603, Norwalk, Connecticut  
 Edmund C. Tiemann, Post 7050, Melrose, Minnesota  
 James E. Van Zandt, Post 3, Altoona, Pennsylvania  
 Richard L. Roudebush, Post 1587, Indianapolis, Indiana  
 Willis M. McKeon, Post 4067, Malta, Montana

#### *National Security Committee:*

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 James Earl Rudder, Post 856, Austin, Texas  
 Harley F. Cope, Post 427, Washington, D. C.  
 Guy J. Swope, Post 1086, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania  
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 Leon G. Turrou, Post 605, Paris, France  
 Merton B. Tice, Post 2750, Mitchell, South Dakota  
 Leon B. Buer, Post 3240, Grand Rapids, Michigan  
 Patrick E. Carr, Post 6640, Metairie, Louisiana  
 Paul C. Wolman, Post 193, Baltimore, Maryland  
 Lyall T. Beggs, Post 1318, Madison, Wisconsin  
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 John Mahan, Post 1116, Helena, Montana  
 Admiral Arleigh Burke, Consultant, Post 807, Boulder, Colorado  
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#### *National Credentials Committee:*

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#### *National Community Service Committee:*

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 Joe T. Wood, Post 8452, Gainesville, Georgia  
 Jay Stewart, Post 9076, Hays, Kansas  
 Edward W. Hartung, Post 70, Springfield, Massachusetts  
 Arnold Ringstad, Post 3817, East Grand Forks, Minnesota  
 Louis Post, Jr., Post 3235, Greenwood, Mississippi  
 Ralph H. Tripp, Post 395, St. James, New York  
 William Bowles, Post 9445, Toledo, Ohio  
 Vere B. Lipscomb, Post 379, Yakima, Washington

#### *National Budget & Finance Committee:*

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 James W. Cothran, Vice Chairman, Post 3096, Bishopville, South Carolina  
 Joseph J. Lombardo, Post 601, Brooklyn, New York  
 John A. Jenkins, Post 668, Birmingham, Alabama  
 Andy Borg, Post 847, Superior, Wisconsin  
 Clyde A. Lewis, Post 125, Plattsburgh, New York  
 Carl J. Schoeninger, Post 582, Detroit, Michigan  
 Wayne E. Richards, Post 1254, Arkansas City, Kansas  
 Leslie M. Fry, Post 9211, Reno, Nevada

2. Attention is directed to Section 223 of the National By-Laws and Manual of Procedure requiring suitable observance of Veterans Day. See Ritual.
3. THROUGH CHANNELS. Post Commanders, District Commanders and County Council Commanders are directed to forward all resolutions or communications relative to Federal legislation or to the policy or procedure of the U. S. Veterans Administration, or any other governmental agency, to their respective Department Headquarters for endorsement and referral to the Adjutant General.
4. BONDS: Attention of Post Quartermasters is directed to the fact that bond applications and bond premiums should be sent to the Department Quartermaster. Checks should be made payable to the Department, and neither should be sent direct to the National Headquarters.
5. All National Aides-de-Camp, Congressional Medal of Honor Class, who held appointment prior to August 17, 1962, will be reappointed promptly upon notification by Department Quartermasters that such aides are in good standing.
6. All members of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States who have been awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor are eligible to appointment as Aides-de-Camp to the Commander-in-Chief, Congressional Medal of Honor Class. Post Commanders will report such members to their Department Commanders for recommendation and referral to the Commander-in-Chief.
7. Recommendations for appointment of Aides-de-Camp or other national officers will be forwarded through channels to reach the Commander-in-Chief bearing the approval of the Department Commander having jurisdiction.
8. Announcement is made of the change of location of McGuire-Sheridan Memorial Post No. 9574 from Wrightstown, New Jersey to Springfield Township, New Jersey, in accordance with Section 206 of the National By-Laws.
9. Announcement is made of the consolidation of Portsmouth Post No. 993, Portsmouth, Virginia, and Service Post No. 4411, Portsmouth, Virginia, the consolidated Post to be known as Portsmouth Post No. 993, Portsmouth, Virginia.
10. Announcement is hereby made of the authorization of charters to the following Posts:
 

No. 3750, Kinder, La.	No. 4360, Village of Palm Springs, Fla.
No. 3756, Zachary, La.	No. 5202, Waynesville, N. C.
No. 4245, Vacherie, La.	No. 7868, Brooklyn, N. Y.
No. 4275, Marrero, La.	No. 8669, Huntsville, Ala.
	No. 8858, New York, N. Y.
	No. 9486, Lake Ronkonkoma, N. Y.

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 JULIAN DICKENSON  
 Adjutant General

By Command of:  
 BYRON B. GENTRY  
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"From then on *Stars and Stripes* snow-balled in circulation. "Name" writers, like the rotund Alexander Woollcott, dramatic editor of the *New York Times*, joined our staff. Then came Franklin P. Adams, the columnist, and Grantland Rice, who was yet to become renowned as dean of America's sports writers.

"In the spring of 1919 the paper folded and all hands went home. No one had the least idea it would ever be published again."

But it was, of course, and here is that story.

The modern *Stars and Stripes* began life at a private printshop in London, April 18, 1942.

At its birth the staff was a tiny group of soldiers recruited from the 34th Inf. Div. then stationed in Northern Ireland, plus a Marine corporal, and one sailor shanghaied from somewhere.

The lead story was an interview with Gen. George C. Marshall, Army Chief of Staff.

Marshall quoted Gen. John. J. Pershing, commander of the World War I American Expeditionary Forces, that *Stripes* had been a major factor in sustaining the morale of the members of the A.E.F.

"We have his (Pershing's) authority for the statement that no official control was ever exercised over the matter which went into *The Stars and Stripes*," Marshall said. "It always was entirely for and by the soldier. This policy is to govern the conduct of the new publication."

On Nov. 2, 1942, *Stripes* became a daily, publishing four to eight pages depending on the time and newspaper available.

At one time or another *Stripes* operated from 25 locations in Europe, North Africa, the Middle East and Hawaii. Each edition had its own staff and its own problems.

It was sold in England for about two pence (five cents) per copy, but elsewhere was given away.

A Hawaiian edition was launched a week after V-E Day and became the fore-runner of the *Pacific Stars and Stripes*. Today, *Pacific Stripes* in Tokyo is completely separate from *European Stripes*.

To get the wartime job done, staffers conned, cajoled or commandeered printing presses on all war fronts of the world. The staff was always on the move in the field, for in order to put out a daily to the combat troops, they had to set up shop as close to the front as possible.

In Rome they came in the same day the city was captured, grabbed the offices of *Il Messagero*, and the first edition carried the banner head, "We're in Rome."

*Stripes* engaged in plenty of battles (and quite a few flaps) and correspondents got killed, wounded or captured just as front-line combatants.

*Stripes* had pfc editors assigning lieutenant reporters, and sergeants rubbing shoulders with Navy captains. But the system worked and *Stripes'* various editions reached a daily circulation of more than one million readers.

Members of the staff were all servicemen but not all were very military.

Tom Hoge, for instance, was assigned to cover a paratroop operation over Holland. He ended by jumping with the troopers after the C47 in which they were flying was hit.

Caught by the Germans, Hoge's unmilitary appearance confused his captors.

"You can't be a paratrooper. You're wearing low shoes and a black tie," a German major told him. "Maybe you're a spy and we should turn you over to the Gestapo."

Hoge finally convinced the Germans that he was a military correspondent and he was thrown into a POW camp. In February, 1945, Russian troops freed Tom and he spent a month with the Soviet Army before working his way back to the Rome edition of *Stripes*.

It was a military newspaper that failed to understand red tape, rank or regulations. The staff was bent on the task of getting news to the troops daily.

This lack of comprehension—some say it was a failure to follow orders—brought at least two staffers the Croix de Guerre and the Bronze Star.

The time was January, 1945—the place, Strasbourg, France. The Battle of the Bulge was raging to the north. The U.S. 7th Army was headquartered in Strasbourg, but shortly after New Year's they were ordered to move back to Luneville west of the Vosges Mountains.

*Stripes* had a Strasbourg edition going at the time and orders were to suspend publication and retreat. Ed Clark and Vic Dallaire felt the paper should continue as long as American troops were fighting in the vicinity.

Two other Americans—a couple of psychological warfare civilians whose job it was to propagandize the local inhabitants in French and German—also decided to stay.

When the populace of Strasbourg saw the Yanks withdraw, panic hit the streets with the fear of German reoccupation and reprisals.

Vic and Ed swung into action. With the help of the two American civilians, the *Stripes* staffers put out daily editions



of the paper in English, French and German. Then they distributed the papers to the people, who calmed down upon seeing the paper was still in operation.

When French North African troops entered the city, the situation was saved—for everybody but Vic and Ed. There was talk of a court-martial because they had failed to follow orders and retreat. Instead they were decorated by the French and U.S. governments for remaining in Strasbourg and averting panic among its citizens by publishing the paper.

*Stripes* published—or tried to publish—under fire throughout those days. One of the *Stripes* men, Joe McBride, still with us today, tried to open a Liege edition just before Christmas, 1944.

When McBride and six other staffers arrived at Liege, the Belgian city was being pounded by V-bombs. Nazi paratroopers were dropping around it, the German Army had broken through to the south and east, Luftwaffe bombers were dropping their loads on Liege and U.S. troops were pulling back.

"We're sure opening this joint with a bang," McBride told his buddies.

For nine days they scoured the city. Just as they found an operational news plant they got orders from Paris to withdraw. They did. Another crew moved in finally after the Battle of the Bulge and set up the Liege edition.

Sometimes *Stripes*' reporting helped the war along.

A little story that appeared in the edition of May 12, 1944, may have been the forerunner of parachute-aided landings which U.S. jet fighter craft use today.

A B24 Liberator was returning from a bombing run with its hydraulic brakes shot out. The plane landed safely in Italy after an imaginative pilot ordered parachutes to be released from the waist windows of his aircraft as a means of braking the plane after touchdown.

Two weeks later, the crew of the B17, *Stage Door Canteen*, found themselves in similar difficulties. Someone remembered the story, did the same thing, and the plane was landed safely at base.

Probably the greatest battle in which *Stripes* engaged was a flap dubbed "The Battle of Stars and Stripes," by Capt. Harry C. Butcher, Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower's naval aide.

The "stars" were the three belonging to Lt. Gen. George C. Patton, Commander of the Third Army. The "stripes" were the three belonging to Bill Mauldin, *Stripes* cartoonist and creator of *Willie and Joe*.

Everybody liked Willie and Joe, two mud-covered, dry-humored infantrymen who typified front-line fighters to all our combat troops. But Patton didn't like Willie and Joe. He felt that portraying these two soldiers in dirty clothes was

setting a bad example for the U.S. Army.

He wrote a letter to *Stripes* threatening to bar the paper throughout his command if it didn't remove the unshaven and unkempt Mauldin characters from its pages.

Mauldin, who had been wounded in action, felt his portrayal of infantrymen was honest. He was backed by the *Stripes* staff, which had been successfully fighting the battle against brass interference.

The war between the "stars" and the "stripes" finally came to a victorious end for Sergeant Mauldin when Eisenhower, the supreme commander, wrote to his deputy theater commander, April 11, 1945:

"A great deal of pressure has been brought on me in the past to abolish such things as Mauldin's cartoons, the "B" Bag, etc. You will make sure that the responsible officer knows he is not to interfere in matters of this kind. If he believes that a specific violation of good sense or good judgment has occurred, he may bring it to my personal attention."

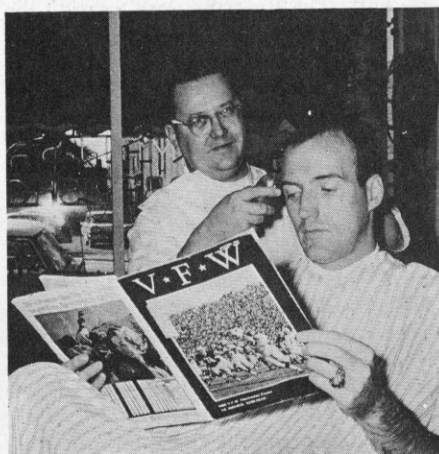
When World War II fighting ceased, it was decided *Stripes* would continue as long as U.S. troops remained abroad.

The first plant on German soil was set up in a Pfungstadt brewery, April 5, 1945. A year later, *Stripes* moved to Altdorf, taking over the presses of *Der Sturmer*, a Nazi sheet.

On Sept. 27, 1949, *Stripes* finally settled in Darmstadt at a former Luftwaffe training field. It has been there ever since.

When *Stripes* settled down in postwar Germany, it began to civilianize. As military staffers left, *Stripes* hired professional civilian newsmen, although the paper still has a few military personnel.

Many of its wartime staffers went back into civilian life and important jobs on



GETTING ACQUAINTED with the Veterans of Foreign Wars by reading the September issue of its official publication, *V.F.W. Magazine*, is a customer in the barbershop of Commander Matt Kawa, Post 5418, Chicago. The Post distributes about 100 *V.F.W. Magazines* monthly to barber shops and doctors' and dentists' offices in its District. The purpose is to attract eligible members and acquaint the public with the aims of the V.F.W.

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The number of people living in the United States on April 1, 1960, was nearly 179½ million. This was 28 million more people than were counted by the Census Bureau in 1950—the greatest increase in any 10-year period in our nation's history. This increase alone was larger than the total population of the United States as shown in any census before 1860.

This graphic 12-page pamphlet presents in popular form data taken primarily from the detailed reports on Number of Inhabitants, Series PC(1)-A, of the 1960 Census of Population. It explains the growth of America's population, providing information on births and deaths, immigration, population and land expansion, and state population increases. It also compares our people against others in the world and gives an estimate of what our population may be by 1970 and 1980.

The Bureau of the Census recommends this publication as a teaching aid for students of all ages, from the elementary grades through college. To encourage an extensive distribution and use of this informative publication, a special quantity price of \$5 per 100 copies has been established.

Catalog No. C 3.223/14:60-1

10¢, \$5.00 per 100

## NOW THAT YOU ARE RETIRING

Many questions linger on in the back of a person's mind even after the decision to retire has been made. This booklet has suggestions and ideas which may help you answer some of these questions and make your retirement years more satisfying and secure. It discusses working part time; activities for those wishing to retire full time; keeping in as good health as possible to enjoy your retirement years; where to live after retirement; how to make your retirement income stretch; and community services available for the older person. 1961. 31 p. il.

Catalog No. FS 3.35:853

15¢

## ENRICHING THE ADDED YEARS

Discusses the major issues involved in providing older people today the opportunity to add meaning and usefulness to the later years of life. Included is the Charter of Senior Citizens, listing the rights and obligations of our senior citizens. 1961. 14 p. il.

Catalog No. FS 1.2:En 7/961

10¢

## SUBURBAN AND FARM VEGETABLE GARDENS

Gives simple instructions on garden preparation and soil improvement, planning and arranging the garden, obtaining the seed and quantity of seed required, starting of plants in hotbeds and other plant-growing devices, care of the garden, time of planting, and culture of specific crops. Rev. 1961. p. il.

Catalog No. A 1.77:9/2

25¢

## PART-TIME FARMING

Presents pros and cons of part-time farming; discusses the land, labor and equipment needed; tells how to select a farm; and treats briefly various enterprises suitable for part-time farming. Rev. 1961. 14 p. il.

Catalog No. A 1.9:2178

10¢

## COMMUNISM IN ACTION

A documented study and analysis of Communism in operation in the Soviet Union. 1946. 141 p.

Catalog No. 79-2:H.doc. 754

45¢

major newspapers throughout the U.S. Others went into public relations and related fields.

Undoubtedly the most famous graduate of wartime *Stripes* is Mauldin, Pulitzer Prize-winning editorial cartoonist for the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*. Then there's Dick Wingert, whose cartoon, "Hubert," still appears in *Stripes*, and Dave Breger.

Life for staffers since the war hasn't been as dangerous as in combat days, but it has had its excitements.

On March 8, 1948, *Stripes* correspondent Ernie Reed, then covering Vienna, got into a fight with a Russian soldier who was trying to kidnap an Austrian girl.

Ernie had arrived in front of the Grand Hotel minutes after the Russian had shot the girl's companion, U.S. Pfc. Jack L. Grunden. Ernie had wrested the girl from the soldier, but the couple had gone only a few feet when they were surrounded by a dozen Soviet soldiers with fixed bayonets who spirited the girl away.

About 13 years later in the same city, photographer Guenther Schuettler stole a march on other photographers covering the Kennedy-Khrushchev meetings. Three pool photographers from among the hundreds gathered were chosen to cover the actual conference and Schuettler wasn't among them.

On the day of the conference, German-born lensman Schuettler waited outside the American ambassador's residence where the meeting was to be held. He was standing in a driving downpour wondering how he could get in, when four Russian TV men, loaded with equipment, approached him.

Taking him for a local Austrian, the Russians asked ex-GI Schuettler, in broken German, how they could find the conference hall. The Russians were wearing the green press cards that could gain them admittance to the meeting.

Thinking fast, Guenther said, "Ja, tovarich, I'll help you." Then, grabbing a tripod from one the Russians, he herded them past the guards, following close behind.

Since he wasn't required to share his photos with the newsmen's pool, Schuettler got *Stripes* an armful of exclusives.

The photo staff has always done well professionally, but Red Grandy, chief photographer, hit a double jackpot in April, 1951.

On April 12, he was with General Eisenhower when the SHAPE commander got the word that President Truman had fired General Douglas MacArthur. The famous "Well-I'll-Be-Darned" photo that Red took hit the press circuits of the world and won the best "spot news" photo award of the year.

Nine days later, Red hit paydirt again when he caught the tender reunion scene of Mrs. Robert A. Vogeler greeting her

husband who had just been released after 17 months in a Communist Hungary jail.

*Stripes* has become a rather quiet outfit today. For while its readers still are primarily U.S. military or government civilian personnel, there now are thousands of family people looking to *Stripes* for their daily news.

But primarily, it is still a serviceman's newspaper, dedicated to the U.S. Soldier, Sailor, Airman and Marine serving his country abroad.

The European edition of *The Stars and Stripes* today is a \$10 million-plus a year business that does not receive one cent from the American taxpayer. It is set up to serve U.S. military personnel, government civilians and their dependents stationed in Europe, Africa and the Middle East.

*Stripes* daily prints about 160,000 copies of its 24-page newspaper, which is circulated in 33 countries. The four editions of the paper are sent by truck, train, plane, and even mule, to circulation points as distant as Peshawar on the Khyber pass in Pakistan and other remote places where military personnel are stationed.

*Stripes* loses more than \$1 million a year selling the newspaper for 5 cents daily and 10 cents on Sunday, largely because it is not allowed to sell advertising. It costs an average of 8 cents a copy to print and distribute the paper on weekdays and 12 cents on Sundays.

To keep the organization from going broke, however, *Stripes* operates more than 400 newsstands at Army and Air Force installations in its circulation area. It is largely through the sale of books, magazines and other publications that *Stripes* takes in enough money to make up the deficit and still contribute to the Army-Air Force welfare funds from its modest profits.

Since 1951, *Stripes* has been able to contribute \$2,615,250 to USAREUR and USAFE welfare funds.

The European edition of *Stars and Stripes* is published under the jurisdiction of the U.S. European Command, headquartered in Paris. U.S. EUCOM has delegated operational responsibility to the USAREUR commander-in-chief in Heidelberg.

The USAREUR public affairs division is responsible for staff supervision of *Stripes*, while day-to-day operating responsibilities fall to the editor-in-chief, currently Army Col. Ridgway P. Smith, Jr. The deputy editor-in-chief is Air Force Lt. Col. John J. Caulfield.

*Stripes* differs from privately owned metropolitan dailies in the U.S. only in that there are no ads or editorials. It does not seek to influence public opinion. Its goal is to give its readers factual, unbiased news coverage, plus as many entertaining features as possible. [The End]



# DYNAMIC V.F.W. PROGRAM FOR 1962-63

(Continued from Page 19)

"The two most important things that the V.F.W. must do," said Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief John A. Jenkins, who next addressed the officers, "are to increase its prestige at every level and constantly stress leadership ability in every Post, District, County Council, Department and National office."

Jenkins said that there were no easy solutions to the problems that face America today and the best way that the V.F.W. can help is to maintain a steady course and put the best men possible in positions of leadership.

On Saturday evening, Sept. 29, Commander-in-Chief Gentry was host at a dinner given for the V.F.W. officers and having as honored guests, Mayor H. Roe Bartle, of Kansas City, Mo., his assistant, Reynolds Rodgers, and four members of the Kansas City city council: Charles W. Fisher, Joseph M. Nolan, William R. Royster and Harry S. Davis. Davis is a Past Commander of V.F.W. Post 1219, Kansas City, Mo.

At the Sunday meeting of the National Council of Administration, Adjutant General Julian Dickenson took the floor to make several pertinent announcements. He informed the officers present that beginning with its November issue, the official publication of the Ladies Auxiliary to the V.F.W., the *National Bulletin*, would be printed at the World Color Press, Inc., St. Louis, Mo.

Adjutant General Dickenson then made two motions: that the 25 cent dues increase amendment to the By-Laws of the Ladies Auxiliary to the V.F.W., passed at the 1962 Auxiliary National Convention, be approved by the National Council of Administration, and that the By-Laws adopted by the Ladies Auxiliary to the

Military Order of the Cootie be approved. The Council voted to approve both measures.

Reporting next to the V.F.W. officers was Adrian J. Grobsmith, National Convention Director, who had just returned from a trip to Seattle, Wash., designated site of the 1963 National Convention. Grobsmith had gone to Seattle to check on the facilities available for the convention. He advised the National Council members that he had received a favorable impression and that planning for the convention had begun.

The National Council also approved the reports of national committees which met here earlier this month to outline and project established V.F.W. programs for the coming year.

Heartily endorsed by the Council was a recommendation by the Americanism Committee that V.F.W. sponsored patriotic activities be accelerated in zeal and expanded in scope. It was decided to provide citations and awards to V.F.W. units active in promoting and supporting patriotic activities.

By way of defining "Americanism," the committee reported:

"Americanism" starts in the grade school. It is heard in the voice from the pulpit. It is the pledge of allegiance to the flag, to the country and to our fundamental ideals. It is the patriotic speaking out against Communism, Fascism, prejudice and the double-tongued ultra liberals which mouth radical treachery. "Americanism" is many things—all building dynamic citizenship."

The Council also approved recommendations that teachers be praised and supported who emphasize patriotic instruction and that the V.F.W. fight be stepped-

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(Not Illustrated)

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**MAYOR H. ROE BARTLE** (second from right), of Kansas City, Mo., was a guest at a dinner given for V.F.W. officers attending the annual meeting of the National Council of Administration in that city. Also present were the Mayor's assistant, Reynolds Rodgers, and four members of the city council, Charles W. Fisher, Joseph M. Nolan, William R. Royster and Harry S. Davis. Left to right: V.F.W. Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief Joseph J. Lombardo, Commander-in-Chief Byron B. Gentry, Mayor H. Roe Bartle, Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief John A. Jenkins.

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up against elements threatening the security and ideals of the nation.

Increased public support and participation in Loyalty Day activities next May 1, was another aim endorsed by the Council. Fostered by the V.F.W., May 1 officially was designated Loyalty Day in the U. S. when President Dwight D. Eisenhower signed a proclamation July 18, 1958. Formulated to counteract the effects of Communist demonstrations and militant May Day muscle-flexing, Loyalty Day has become a national salute to the principles of free government.

"Loyalty Day should be the apex of a series of special patriotic observances," the committee reported. "Let us stimulate loyalty today, tomorrow, and every day."

National scholarship increases to winners of the annual Voice of Democracy Contest were also approved. The winner next year will be awarded a \$5,000 scholarship to attend any accredited college or university of his choice. Second prize is a \$3,500 scholarship; third, \$2,500; and fourth, \$1,500.

The theme, "What Freedom Means To Me," will again be the subject upon which thousands of students record their thoughts on tape to submit entries in the audio contest. Foreign exchange students will again be eligible to compete.

A quota contest to increase the number of V.F.W. Posts currently sponsoring Scouting units was agreed upon at the suggestion of the Youth Activities Committee. At present, 1,500 troops are sponsored by the V.F.W., including many Cub Scout Packs.

A steady growth of V.F.W. sponsored Junior Rifle Clubs was noted and it was urged that team champions participate in National Rifle Association regional championship matches next spring. The Veterans of Foreign Wars sponsors 300 rifle clubs with about 7,000 boys and girls actively participating.

Use of the Hershey Estates at Hershey, Pa., for the national Teen-er V.F.W. Baseball League play-offs next year seemed assured, the committee reported. Area winners of about 1,400 V.F.W. sponsored teams met there last summer in an elimination tourney to decide the National V.F.W. Champion.

Another youth activity to be accented this year, will be the "Lite-A-Bike" program. Although it discourages the use of bicycles after dark, the V.F.W. plans to distribute Scotch-Lite Reflector tape for use on bicycles to aid cars in avoiding the smaller vehicles.

The National Community Service Committee reported that 92 per cent of all V.F.W. Posts participated in one or more of 650,000 individual endeavors last year. Citations and awards are made to V.F.W. units which sponsor projects that effectively serve their communities. [The End]

## BOOKS

OF SPECIAL INTEREST TO THOSE WHO  
HAVE SERVED IN THE ARMED FORCES

Editor's Note: The books listed below should be purchased through your nearest book store or direct from the publishers. Do not send orders for books to V.F.W. Magazine.

**PISTOLS.** U.S. Martial And Semi-Martial Single-Shot. By Charles Edward Chapel. Coward-McCann, Inc., 200 Madison Ave., New York 16, N.Y. \$7.50. A definitive guide to military and naval single-shot flintlock, percussion, and cartridge pistols by one of America's most eminent gun authorities. A complete illustrated text about handguns that helped forge and preserve American liberty during the nation's first 100 years of existence. Although primarily a reference book for collectors, it also incorporates a panoramic view of American Military History from the Revolution to the Indian Wars. The author is a retired Lieutenant of the U.S. Marines and a V.F.W. member.

**MACARTHUR CLOSE-UP.** By William Addleman Gano. Vantage Press, Inc., 120 West 31st St., New York 1, N.Y. \$3.50. A full length, human interest portrait of Gen. Douglas MacArthur written by his former Chief-of-Staff at West Point. The book was prepared and published without the General's knowledge but is the work of a writer devoted to MacArthur's greatness.

**DO NOT GO GENTLE.** By David MacCuish. Fawcett World Library, 67 West 44th St., New York 36, N.Y. 75¢ paperback. A tense and rugged novel of U.S. Marines in the Solomons campaign of World War II. Liberally punctuated with grief, humor and realism. The protagonist survives the harsh ordeals of warfare only to be tragically disillusioned by a love affair. Excellent.

**THE UNREGIMENTED GENERAL.** A Biography of General Nelson A. Miles. By Virginia W. Johnson. Houghton Mifflin Company, 2 Park St., Boston, Mass. \$6.95. The story of one of the most brilliant and controversial Generals of American history. A Maj. Gen. at 27 he won the Medal of Honor during the Civil War. He accepted a regular Army commission as a Colonel following the war and conducted the United States' most successful campaigns against the Indian Nations. The book gives a graphic account of those campaigns and is liberally sprinkled with the General's personal correspondence. Miles also led the successful Puerto Rico expedition during the Spanish-American War—then demanded an investigation of War Department conduct during the conflict! Not since the General's autobiography was published many years ago has there been such a comprehensive account of his life and times.

**THE FEDERAL INVESTIGATORS.** By Miriam Ottenberg. Prentice-Hall, Inc., Englewood Cliffs, N. J. \$5.95. An excellent book by the Pulitzer Prize winning crime reporter of the Washington Evening Star. The author ably covers activities of multiple branches of federal investigation, domestic and foreign. Previously untold stories of exciting cases are related in a suspenseful and interesting style.

**WORLD WAR I.** An Outline History. By Hanson W. Baldwin. Harper & Row, 49 East 33rd St., New York 16, N.Y. \$3.95. A precise and concise history of the Great War—1914-18, which captures its scope, violence and totality. The author, who is the military analyst for the New York Times, covers the war in all of its political import and its fierce and bloody struggles. An excellent reference or text book, it is also highly readable.

## TEACH YOUR SON HOW TO HANDLE A GUN!

(Continued from page 17)

opportunity to practice his learning in the field.

The NRA junior program is divided into three phases—instruction, qualification and competition.

The youngster first receives instruction in the basic fundamentals of safe and proper use of the rifle. Then, as his training continues, he shoots targets which count toward a series of progressively more difficult qualification ratings. Fifteen separate ratings are recognized, for which diplomas, medals and brassards are awarded. The youngster who successfully gains the rating of Expert Rifleman, or highest of all—Distinguished Rifleman—is truly an accomplished marksman. The extent of this program of qualification is shown by the fact that NRA issues awards for nearly 400,000 ratings each year.

The NRA junior program, labeled a howling success from the beginning, started with some 200 clubs and 12,000 young riflemen in 1925. Since then, millions of youngsters have taken part in the program. Many of them have gone on to local, national, and even international shooting fame.

A non-profit organization, the NRA is headquartered in Washington, D. C. It maintains the records and services of some 460,000 individual members. About 44,000 are life members. It also keeps current information on 4,800 senior and 5,500 junior clubs, and those of the V.F.W. which are affiliated with the parent unit.

Let us look briefly at the NRA hunter safety program. The NRA claims no credit for the beginning of the program. It gives it, rather, to the Conservation Department of New York State.

The New York State Legislature, concerned over the ever-increasing number of hunting accidents—especially among young hunters—passed a law in 1949. It required youngsters under 16 to take and pass a course in safe gun handling before they could obtain their first hunting license—a laudable piece of legislation that might well be imitated in other states. The New York Conservation Department soon discovered that although they were sighting in on the right target, it was out of range. The job was a tremendous one—much greater than it could handle.

As a result, the NRA was designated as a qualified agency to provide instruction and issue the certifications necessary. Working hand-in-glove with other organizations, it prepared course texts, instructor requirements, teaching guides, and other materials. Then it called for volunteers among its members.



What an avalanche! What a deluge! What a rolling snowball! Fathers, mothers, and legislators throughout the country recognized the excellence of this safety program.

Today, 29 states and one Canadian Province operate similar programs. Of the 29 states, 14 require it by law.

To date, the programs have certified more than 35,000 volunteer hunter, safety instructors. In turn, these instructors have trained more than 1,200,000 youngsters. No one can estimate how many thousands of lives the program has saved, nor how many crippling accidents it has helped to avoid.

Finding a father who had taught his son to handle a gun proved easy in our nation's capital, headquarters of the NRA.

Glen A. Burklund, 38, who saw service during World War II in the Pacific theater, taught his 13-year-old son, Lance, how to handle a gun. But he also taught his two girls, Linda, 15, and Deborah, 12. Both girls were introduced to weapons when they were eight years old.

"As for Lance," Glen said, "he had a .22 when he was 10 years old, and I put him through the NRA course when he was 11."

Lance tackled elementary gun safety paces at the Fairfax (Va.) Rod and Gun Club. He still shoots at the club, and two of his prized possessions are a .264 Winchester, and a .500 Magnum which, "... can stop a moose at 500 yards."

Like most hunters, Glen recalls at least one "stupid" accident that almost made him a statistic.

"A pal and I had just finished hunting," he said, "and we were just talking and standing around. We were just kids—about 12 or so. My .22 was pointed at the ground. As I lifted the bolt to take out a bad cartridge, the gear slipped and a bullet went whistling through my pants leg. I never used that rifle again. It wasn't safe."

If hunting safety is to be promoted, there are certain basic rules shooters should practice. These rules may save your life.

Basic hunting rules apply whether you are stalking a buck in back country, or winging an elusive bird on the fly at the edge of a populous community.

Basic rules include both Do's and Don'ts. Experienced sportsmen follow them religiously.

Always be sure a gun is not loaded under certain conditions, such as when getting into or out of a car. Similarly, weapons should not be loaded when climbing a fence, being handed to a friend, or when walking to and from the hunting area.

Experienced sportsmen make sure their weapons are not loaded by removing the

bolts or unloading both chambers and magazines.

Experienced sportsmen never aim carelessly at objects with a loaded weapon. Spatter, or ricochet, can result in dangerous wounds or even cause death.

When responsible sportsmen aim at anything, they mean to shoot—and when they shoot—they aim to kill.

Simple, isn't it?

When hunters follow each other in single file, the man in the lead never should carry his weapon in the crook of his arm or over his shoulder.

Equally dangerous, is for the second hunter in file to hold his firearm with the muzzle pointing at the man in the lead. Weapons should be carried at "Port Arms" with safety catches on.

When two sportsmen become separated while hunting, both should refrain from firing at head level, or below, when they are unaware of each other's exact whereabouts. Many a death has been explained with these stupid-sounding words:—"I didn't know he was in the line of fire."

Refraining from firing should also be observed when hunting in thickly-wooded or foliated areas.

Never—but never—hand a person a weapon, muzzle first. That would be a mighty dangerous hole facing him. It could be the last, except for the one he is lowered into underground.

A large number of accidents also occur in transporting firearms. The reason might be that sportsmen sometimes get careless at the beginning and at the end of a trip. Firearms should not be transported without being disassembled. In some states, it is illegal to transport weapons without meeting that requirement.

When hunting, wear conspicuous garments that do not blend well with the surroundings—preferably red. The best way to be mistaken for a game animal is to wear clothes that camouflage with the surroundings. Other hunters will see your movement but not your form. Your khakis or dungarees might look like buckskin in their sights.

So if you would hunt, and live to hunt another day, review these basic hunting rules. They may save your life some day, or another person's.

Finally, never mix alcohol with hunting. Carelessness in connection with either is dangerous—but in combination, they are deadly.

[The End]

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This substance is now available in suppository or ointment form under the name Preparation H®. Ask for it at all drug counters.



## OL' SARGE

(Continued from page 15)

to pat him—but I never made it.”

They never knew what hit them. There was the telltale whine of an oncoming shell and then—blackness.

It was night when Sarge regained consciousness. The explosion had laid his skull bare. Several ribs had been staved in and his left front paw dangled uselessly. He whimpered softly, his keen sense of smell detecting Sergeant McGee somewhere nearby. Painfully, he dragged his broken body, following the scent, to where the youthful Marine lay critically wounded. The shell had horribly mangled an arm and leg. The dog licked McGee's face. McGee did not stir, his figure still as death.

Sarge, scarcely conscious and a bloody caricature of his normal self, grasped the jacket of the seriously injured young Marine in his teeth and slowly dragged, tugged and pulled him to a foxhole. But this was not enough. His buddy needed help. Unable to regain his feet, Sarge began to crawl for help. After a long, painful, crawl he found some Medical Corpsmen. But his job was not yet over. Glassy-eyed, unable to respond to the simplest commands, crawling painfully, he incredibly led the medics back to where Sergeant McGee lay; a feat of courage, loyalty to duty and unselfish love unique in the annals of canine history.

“Sarge's brush with death was mighty close,” related McGee during a post-war visit with Mrs. Jeanne Platt, the dog's mistress.

“My arm and leg had been blown off and Sarge's head was terribly injured.

After I came out from under the ether I learned that the medics had decided to put Sarge out of his misery, but I pleaded, begged and—yes—even wept for his life. The other men in the regiment intervened until they agreed to perform a delicate operation. A combat plate was used to patch his head; possibly the only such operation ever performed on a dog.”

Heroic? Of course! But this was not Sarge's first such exploit. Sergeant McGee was the *ninth* American that the valiant warrior had saved from death.

There was the time in November of 1943 when Sarge parachuted to a lonely atoll on Tarawa and attacked a Japanese sniper's nest, rescuing the surrounded and wounded Marine, PFC Robert Fuller, who had called for help via his walkie-talkie. He would have died within a few hours had he not received prompt medical attention.

A few months later, in the Marshall Islands, while on sentry duty in the tangled jungle, his master at the time, Marine Private Lawrence Simms of Tampa, Florida, was attacked and wounded by an enemy patrol. Out of ammunition and too badly injured to defend himself, Simms crawled into the thick underbrush to die. Sarge attacked the Japanese patrol and scattered it though he had a bullet in his shoulder. He somehow made his way back to friendly territory and led an American squad to where Simms was lying near death. An immediate transfusion saved the private's life.

And once, on a desolate stretch of Saipan beach, a fusillade of enemy bullets cut down his Marine comrade, Corporal Vincent Manelli of Brooklyn, N. Y. Sarge, a bullet lodged near the base of his spine, and incapable of

crawling for help, let alone fighting, lay beside Corporal Manelli, snarling at two Japanese advance scouts. Yes, they could have killed the plucky war-dog but instead they placed a mess-kit of water near the wounded warrior—a tribute from one soldier to another. Sarge, although his pain must have been intense, guarded his friend through the night until help finally arrived. Within a month Corporal Manelli was cheerfully feeding his canine benefactor tidbits from the mess table.

The list goes on and on—to the eternal glory of this amazing German Shepherd. Said Corporal Manelli, years later: “The only thing I can say about Ol' Sarge was that his heart was as big as the Ritz.”

“They called Sarge a ‘Devil Dog’,” said PFC Charles Lockman, one of the men whom the dog had rescued in the Solomons, “but he was the gentlest ‘devil’ I ever saw. He might have been ‘hell on wheels’ to the enemy, but he was as gentle as a kitten and playful as a puppy with us. We loved him. And what's more, he knew it!”

“A lot of men who saw service in World War II learned how to scrounge,” recalled a Marine officer, “but Sarge became a past master at scrounging. He could beg more extra K-rations from the men than anyone else in the service—man or dog. Did we mind? Not so you'd notice! He was one of the ‘boys’. *We even built him a wooden post in the shape of a fire hydrant as a token of our affection.*”

The old war hero was born April 16, 1941, in Bakersfield, Calif., the eighth generation offspring of the famous Major Von Luckner of World War I. He was purchased for \$250 by an Army career man, the late Sergeant Thomas



WHEN THE Clifford Lybeck family suffered a double misfortune the citizens of Liberty County, Montana, led by Post 3997 of Chester, donated items and auctioned them off to help the family overcome difficulties. Post Commander W. E. Hunt is shown presenting Lybeck a check for \$3,938, part of the money raised. Lybeck's son was injured when a horse fell with him and his ranch was parched by a drought.



A CITATION for performing outstanding service at the United States Soldier's Home is being presented Post 284, Washington, D. C., by members of the hospital staff. Accepting it from Mrs. Edith L. Gorasons, Recreation Director, is Post Quartermaster Walter J. Kubacki. Two retired generals helped present the award. They are, Gen. Wade H. Haislip, Home Governor, and Gen. Harry D. Offutt, chief surgeon (right).



Platt, who gave the frisky puppy to his wife, Jeanne, as a present. A few months later, Sergeant Platt was called for active duty, overseas, and Jeanne, as did many of her sisters who were Army wives, joined the Army as a nurse. Her son was already serving his country as an Air Force pilot. It was natural that Major Von Luckner III—"Sarge" to his friends—would get into uniform to make the family 100 per cent military. There were some misgivings about him, though. In those days Sarge preferred to cuddle.

Thus it was that as a bouncy pup of one year, Sarge "enlisted" in the Army as a sentry. After basic training at Camp Shelby, Mississippi, he was transferred to the Marine Corps where he soon learned that chasing butterflies was sissy stuff—for puppies. As a Marine "Devil Dog," he distinguished himself until the war's end, in 1945.

In 1947, Sarge, now a disabled veteran, was honorably discharged from the Second Marine Corps Regiment with nine citations—one for each of the nine men whom he had saved from death on the battlefield. And that was not all. He also was awarded the Silver Star, the Asiatic Theater Medal and the Purple Heart with two clusters. His "official" uniform, designed by his Marine buddies, sported a hash mark for service, and a sergeant's insignia. It was a proud Mrs. Jeanne W. Platt who retrieved her beloved Major in San Francisco.

"He wasn't as spry as he had been when he entered the Service in 1942," Mrs. Platt recalled. "But, after all, he was five years older. He limped because of his war wounds, his ears no longer stood as erect as they once had because of his head injury and the insertion of the plate, and already a few white streaks could be seen in his coat. I suppose that is why his Marine friends started calling him Sarge."

But if life as a Marine Devil Dog had been harsh, Sarge was to find civilian life often as brutal. War heroes are soon forgotten and the valiant German Shepherd quickly became a misty legend. Meanwhile, time had not dealt kindly with his mistress, a Gold Star Mother whose son had been shot down while on a bombing mission over Germany. Her husband also had died shortly after the war as a result of battle injuries.

In Los Angeles, Ol' Sarge and his mistress were forced to move from place

to place. More than once they were served with eviction papers. The reason? Neighbors wanted no part of a "Devil Dog" in their midst.

"He might be vicious," some said.

Time and again the few understanding people who knew the gentle, affectionate old veteran interceded in his behalf, and just as often were compelled to knuckle to the will of the majority.

Mrs. Platt was adamant in her refusal to give up her beloved charge. "He's all I have left," she said, a catch in her throat. "All we want to do is grow old together. Nothing—nothing will ever separate us."

After a succession of moves from one neighborhood to another, an anonymous friend found a home for Sarge and Mrs. Platt in a Hollywood sanctuary where they were loved and respected.

Mrs. Platt, in addition to her small government pension, was earning a tiny, irregular living as a part time nurse and baby sitter. The aging Sarge required medical care for his war injuries, and a special diet. Friends can usually be relied upon for assistance when a human is in need, but help for a dog?

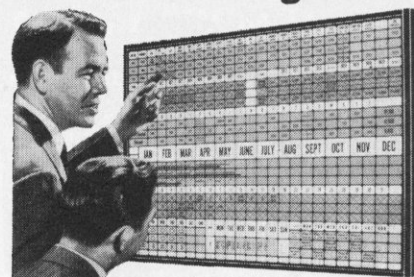
"Silver Star hero or not," she was told, "the kindest thing to do is to have him put to sleep."

And then, on Sept. 21, 1954, came a letter that made Mrs. Platt's heart sing. Former Sgt. Walter McGee, who had been searching for his old comrade-in-arms, had finally located him. A double amputee with a modest government pension, McGee had learned of the pair's financial straits and had written that Sarge would receive a small but regular allotment for rations. Sergeant McGee, as good as his word, continued to remember his four-footed friend until he succumbed to his war injuries and died in 1955.

Ol' Sarge was now struggling for survival. His head injury was giving him trouble. His paw, which had never healed properly, was now in a specially designed plastic cast. Nevertheless, he hobbled about cheerfully. He had contracted an incurable skin disease in the South Pacific jungles and his right eye, injured in the war, was totally blind. A cataract had grown over his left eye and his vision was extremely poor. Yet, the old spark still glowed when he romped with his mistress or tagged along on his daily walks.

But he was not altogether forgotten. His day of glory came in September,

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1956, when the Los Angeles City Council voted Ol' Sarge an honorary, tax-free license (tag #202) in recognition of his wartime acts of courage. The resultant publicity drew many congratulatory letters from military, show business and government representatives, but one aftermath was not so pleasant.

Those unfortunate words, "Devil Dog," had been used in some of the newspaper stories. The "vicious dog in our midst" rumors began to fly again. Ol' Sarge, now 15 years old—comparable to a man of one hundred and five—asked nothing more active than sunning himself or lying peacefully in bed. Occasionally he would bark or twitch in his sleep; just an old duffer dreaming of his youthful vigor and exploits. But a local crank placed poisoned meat on the back porch where Ol' Sarge usually napped. Fortunately, Mrs. Platt discovered it first. Unaware that the meat had been poisoned, she threw it into an uncovered garbage can. It was found later by a kitten. Within a few hours it had died a horrible death. Arsenic!

But tragedy sometimes has its compensations. On July 12, 1957, Sarge almost lost his life as the result of a sadistic beating. Mrs. Platt recalled it vividly:

"I had just returned home from nursing duty and decided to take Major"—Mrs. Platt never called him "Sarge"—out for a walk. We went very slowly," she recalled, "as Major was really showing his age. His once shiny coat was now quite gray and his muzzle almost white. His ears no longer stood erect and he had but four teeth left. He was, of course, almost totally blind.

"Suddenly he was attacked by an unleashed, powerful young chow," Mrs. Platt said. "It was a bad fight but Major was no match for the stronger, younger dog. A reserve Deputy Sheriff, attracted by the sounds of battle, ran from his home and, to my horror, he raised a billy club and began to beat Major unmercifully. I tried to drag him away but he seemed unable to contain himself. Major was unconscious but the Deputy continued to club him savagely. It was then I threw myself over Major's prostrate body, the cruel rain of blows continuing. We were both badly beaten by the time several spectators intervened and drove the Deputy off.

"The Deputy Sheriff had been bitten during the fray and he charged that it was toothless old Major who had at-

tacked him. I was numb with fright as I sat in the dark, waiting for them to come and take Major away from me. But when the police and a representative of the Animal Regulation Department arrived and learned of Major's war record—when they saw the condition of the aged veteran—it was the other dog that was quarantined. The Deputy Sheriff was discharged from his job."

But the strangest and most gratifying visit was that of Animal Inspector Donald Rose, an ex-Marine. He walked over to where Major was recuperating in his bed, viewed him for some moments and then knelt on one knee. His eyes were misty "Sarge," he breathed. "Ol' Sarge, remember me? Remember Guadalcanal?" His arms went around his old buddy and he held the dog close to his chest. Major struggled to regain his feet as though trying to stand at attention. He fell back, but his tail wagged in recognition. Mr. Rose immediately contacted Richard L. Bonner, Chief of Animal Regulations, who issued orders that Major's life be spared.

The story of the beating and of Rose's intervention on behalf of the famous dog was published by the wire services and appeared in such magazines as "Leatherneck," "Dog World" and Sunday supplements across the nation and in foreign countries. Published also was Sarge's desperate plight. Mrs. Platt, now suffering from a heart condition, and no longer able to work, except for baby-sitting jobs, was still trying to sustain herself and her faithful, forgotten hero.

Some help came shortly after the published items. Frank Ryan, president of "Kal Kan," packers of dog food, volunteered to supply Sarge with his daily rations, free of all costs. Once again the dauntless German Shepherd fought to keep the life ember glowing. With the new diet and Mrs. Platt's patient and loving ministrations, Ol' Sarge's weight increased from a sickly 35 pounds to a husky 85 pounds of Marine muscle.

It was a momentous birthday indeed for the 19-year-old Sarge when, in 1960, he appeared on a nationally televised program—ABC's "About Faces." And someone, perhaps one of the Marines whose life Sarge had saved, anonymously sent a check for the canine gladiator's maintenance.

The following year Sarge had his biggest—and last—birthday party. Congratulatory messages poured in from dignitaries, friends and well-wishers the



world over. Letters and telegrams arrived from California's Governor Edmund G. Brown, Congressman Joe Holt, who has ceaselessly worked to have all war dogs recognized and cared for; from R. L. Bonner, who had presented Ol' Sarge with an honorary license years before, and who was also Commander of Hollywood American Legion Post 43; and from Kurt Kaestner, Commander of the California Marine Corps League. U.S. Marine General Alan W. Shapely recalled Ol' Sarge and his fellow Devil Dogs with affection. In all, some 130 guests crowded the modest duplex apartment where Mrs. Platt and Sarge lived.

Ol' Sarge limped about, unmindful of the popping flashbulbs of the television and newspaper reporters—he had heard worse noise in his time. He wagged his tail as actress June Havoc patted him. He snuggled up close to his pal, youngster Jay North, television's popular "Dennis the Menace," whose mother had been paying the old vet's medical expenses.

Parading in his Marine dress blues, Ol' Sarge held his head erect, proud of the new medal pinned on his uniform—the Presidential Unit Citation, in addition to the Silver Star, Purple Heart and his many other medals and citations. It was growing late; long past the grizzled Sarge's usual hour. He crawled into his bed. With his chin resting on forepaws, he scanned the guests out of his good eye, as though disappointed that none of the living eight Marines of the nine he had rescued were present to help celebrate his 20th birthday.

Mrs. Platt awoke in the early dawn of May 17, 1961, a fearful premonition impelling her to the dog's side. Sarge was panting deeply, straining for the precious oxygen that would keep his tired old heart beating a while longer.

Frantically aware that Sarge was fighting his final battle, Mrs. Platt telephoned for a veterinarian. She forced a little medicine into Sarge's throat and held him close, tears coursing her cheeks. At 4:55 in the morning, the old-timer, now breathing spasmodically, weakly raised his head. For a brief moment recognition stirred in his eyes. Lovingly, his tongue flicked to his mistress' hand in a farewell caress. He whimpered softly. His head slumped in Mrs. Platt's arms and he closed his eyes.

Ol' Sarge had made his last landing, in the best tradition of the United States Marines.

[The End]

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## SUNRISE ON HILL 749

(Continued from page 23)

around him. But he confided this melancholy to few, and then only deep in the mood of night. To others, he was the grinning memory of better days, the haunting hope that they would come again.

Joe, the psychologist, was as gentle sometimes as he was exuberant at other times. Once he saw a fellow rifleman, burdened with too much fear, lie shaken and sobbing under a withering machine-gun crossfire that pinned the company to the scorched earth. Joe crawled slowly toward him, risking his life every time he moved. When he reached the man, he didn't slap him back to reality; nor did he place an arm consolingly around his shoulder. Joe simply smiled and said, "I wonder what the poor people are doing." That said, and did, everything.

We came to call him Lucky Joe, because he escaped with his skin through artillery fire, mortar barrages, frontal assaults, mine fields and small arms fire. He accepted the title and glowed in it, because Joe's fine-tuning told him it made us feel good to call him our luck. But it wasn't luck that saved him in the hundred times that he brushed death. It was a date with destiny, yet to come, that protected Joe for the final moment.

Joe Citera, a shining young man who wanted to live, began to die on Sept. 12, 1951, a brief, but full, four months after he went to war in Korea. Fox Company was caught and isolated by fanatical counterattack during an advance up the slope of a monster hill called 749. We were unable to move in any direction, and under this worst possible condition, we were ordered to dig in.

Machine gunfire raked the slope, and to compound the treachery, dusk rolled over us, leaving our position ill-defined for any artillery support. In the first raw seconds of the battle that stopped and trapped us, Citera was hit. His voice, out of character with cries of pain, sounded over the rattle of gunfire and called for help. A medical corpsman rushed to his side. We saw our luck, and our hopes, fade, and we said goodbye in our own way.

The Chinese slashed at our thin line with vicious attacks. They blew whistles

and bugles, and called down at us in wailing voices that will haunt us forever—"All Marines go home tonight." The calls drifted across the darkness like strings of ribbon, encircling the company in fear. Then, from the hastily-dug foxhole where the wounded lay, a single raspy voice unfurled the colors for the Marines.

Private Joe Citera, up to his calling, shouted, "Brooklyn Marines go home too?"

It electrified the company, shook away the terror and swung the battle of morale in our favor. No battle cry ever rung so clear. Other Marines, far behind us and prematurely mourning our death, listened in surprise as the single voice of Private Joe built to a loud, clear company call of defiance. We fixed bayonets and swore we would hold.

Fox Company fought back all night against waves of screaming Chinese soldiers who were punched back each time by a wall of rifle fire and Joe's rallying calls. He led the shouting each time they came, calling on us in a thousand different ways to stand, to hold.

Citera lasted until dawn. At the first yellow light of morning that said we had won, the luck of Fox Company, twisted all night with the pain of machine gun bullets in both legs, died. His last words to the corpsman were, "They'll hold it now."

We took the news with dumb shock and unashamed tears, and tried to tell each other awkwardly somehow what Private Joe Citera had meant to us. But the last hundred yards of the hill had yet to be taken, and there was little time for eulogy—even for Joe. Instead, we left him a strange monument, written on the cardboard top of a c-ration box we nailed to a tree, so that in other times and other places, this would make the memory of Joe something special.

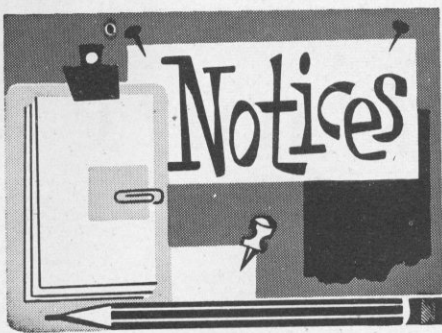
The inscription said, "To Private Joe Citera, Hill 749. He held our luck as long as we needed it."

[The End]

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To avoid errors, material submitted for publication in this column should be either printed or typed. These notices are published free of charge for members just as soon as space conditions permit.

#### ARMY

1st S.A.D., 9th Air Depot, England.—Would like to hear from buddies serving with me at Honington and Troston, 1943-45.—Nicholas Sottolano, 456 Oneida St., Pittsburgh 1, Pa.

3rd Signal Co. & 3rd QM Co., Ft. Benning, Ga. & 65th F.A., Btry. A, Ft. Knox, Ky.—Would like to hear from those serving with me.—Donald Duty, 1613 Doolittle Rd., Baltimore 21, Md.

6th Div. WWI & WWII.—Wish to hear from former buddies.—I. Grossman, 1005 W. 46th St., Los Angeles 37, Calif.

8th Cav., Co. H, 1st Cav. Div.—Seeking whereabouts of Joe P. Cruise, last known living in vicinity of Dayton or Xenia, Wis. Robert G. Witom, R. 2, Box 93, Edgerton, Wis.

21st Inf. Reg., Co. M, 24th Div., Korea, and 35th Inf. Reg., Co. D, Japan.—Wish to hear from anyone serving with me.—Carl E. Wetmore, 1020 N. St. Clair St., Painesville, Ohio.

25th Inf. Div.—Would like to hear from Robert D. Randolph (8th, 64th or 90th F.A. Bn.); Charles Smith and A. Koehn (8th or 89th F.A. Bn.).—John W. Clupp, R. 1, Box 99, Allen, Mich.

69th Inf. Div.—Wish to hear from those interested in joining association, especially from 271st Inf., Co. A.—John K. Jones, 217 Dabney St., Orange, Va.

116th Inf., Co. C, 29th Div. (1944-45)—Will members please contact me at once. Also anyone knowing whereabouts of these 2nd Platoon members please write: Capt. E. T. Willis, Harvey Luck, Stanley P. Major.—Joseph E. Shifflett, McGaheysville, Va.

146th F.A. (particularly Btry. B) (WWI)—Wish to contact former members awarded compensation for respiratory disease or condition.—Burt Berry, 15559 Maplewood Drive, Sonoma, Calif.

149th Reg., Co. E (or Co. G), 38th Div.—Anyone remembering injury to Leonard F. DeLong on Oct. 28, 1918, when truck turned over on him, or who served with him in Co. B, 116th Supply Trn., please write his sister, Emily DeLong, 134 Coral Ave., Louisville 6, Ky.

295th (AAA) Searchlight Bn. & 305th C.A. Bn.—Would like to hear from those who served with me, especially Chaplain Weaver of Texas.—Ronald L. Longnecker, R. 1, West Plains, Mo.

315th F.A. Bn., Btry. C, 80th Div.—Would like to hear from former members.—Walter H. Porter, Rt. 1, Box 3, Ripley, Ohio.

342nd Inf., Co. E, 7th Div. and 20th M.G. Bn., Co. C, (WWI)—Would like to hear from my buddies.—Ted Winkelman, Northome, Minn.

448th MTC, Talmont, France (WWI)—Would like to hear from some of my old buddies.—John Sharpe, c/o John Campbell, 209 Crown Dr., St. Louis 37, Mo.

785th M.P.S., Wilmington, Calif. (1943-44)—Would like to hear from all for 1st Sgt. Buckley A. Barlow, Sr.—Mrs. B. A. Barlow, 2009 River Rd., Hebron, Ky.

786th F.A. Bn., Btry. A.—Would like to hear from Harold C. Kukla.—John W. Clupp, Rt. 1, Box 99, Allen, Mich.

Information.—Wish to contact men who belonged to the Rhineland Post 700, Coblenz, Germany (1919-23), especially from Cavalry sqd. stationed in Ehrenbreitstein.—Joseph A. Lester, 1273 Arbor St., Pittsburgh 6, Pa.

Army of Occupation, Germany & France, (WWI)—Would like to hear from comrades.—R. J. Stauffer, 428 No. 10th St., Reading, Pa.

Information.—To establish claim for back and leg injuries received in France, need to contact members of 93rd Sig. Bn. (1942-45), especially Capt. Henry, Cpl. Schumann and medics of 5th, 80th, 84th, 90th Inf. Div. and 4th Armd. Div.—Anthony J. Joseph, 4131 E. 57th St., Cleveland 5, Ohio.

#### NAVY

USS CEBU Supply Boat (1943-45)—Wish to contact crew members who knew of my taking treatment in sick bay for infected leg.—Robert H. Walker, 903—15th Ave. N, Jacksonville Beach, Fla.

USS Denver.—Would like to hear from any M.M. or W.T. in Engineer room.—George F. Sleva, 1680 Lark Ave., St. Paul 9, Minn.

USS Missouri (1914) and USS Idaho (1911-14).—Wish to hear from former shipmates.—Bill Milling, Pacific Stars and Stripes, APO 94, San Francisco, Calif.

USS LST-500.—Would like to hear from those serving with me.—Alfred "Doc" Farley, Middleboro, Mass.

Sqd. VP 74.—Would like to hear from WWII buddies.—Don L. Scudder, 3337 W. Cambridge, Phoenix, Ariz.

#### Second Book by V.F.W. Commander-in-Chief

• *The Way The Ball Bounces* is the title of a new book by Byron B. Gentry, Commander-in-Chief of the Veterans of Foreign Wars. Published by the Naylor Company of San Antonio, Texas, the book combines outspoken humor, drama and philosophy.

Part I is a hilarious account of a football playing farm boy who went from cow pastures to big-time. The second incorporates a dramatic short story of World War II, and the final part reflects Gentry's philosophy and code of ethics acquired in his role as City Prosecutor of Pasadena, California.

Gentry knows his subjects well. He was a football star at the University of Southern California and an All-Pro lineman for the Pittsburgh Steelers. During World War II he accumulated six battle stars as an intelligence officer for the Army in the European theater of operations. *The Way The Ball Bounces* is the V.F.W. Chief's second book. His first, *Voices Of The Airways*, is a book of verse which has proved extremely popular.

#### Reunions

Because of publication closing date schedules, V.F.W. Magazine must receive notices of forthcoming reunions at least 90 days in advance of the actual reunion dates. To avoid errors, all material should be either printed plainly or typed. These notices are published free of charge as space conditions permit.

#### ARMY

8th Inf., 8th Div. (WWI)—Nov. 10, Whitcomb Hotel, San Francisco, Calif. Write Henry Buckley, 375 Ninth St., San Francisco, Calif.

142nd Ord. Base Auto Bn.—Those interested in 1963 reunion, write Richard King, 24 W. Sierra Madre Blvd., Sierra Madre, Calif.

316th Inf. Co. L (WWI)—Nov. 3, Benjamin Franklin Hotel, Philadelphia, Pa. Write Winter D. Butler, 130 Garvin Blvd., Sharon Hill, Pa.

386th AAA Bn.—Jan. 26, Gloversville, N.Y. Write Kenneth Calhoun, 36 Bloomingdale Ave., Gloversville, N.Y.

712th Tank Bn., Co. B.—Those interested in reunion, write Joe Roush, 3950 N.W. 27th St., Oklahoma City 7, Okla.

894th AW Bn.—July 1963, Scranton, Pa. Write Abe Lucci, 900 Hawthorne Ave., Morgantown, W. Va.

3538th Ord. Med. Auto. Maint. Co.—July 1963. Write Yankee Barbakow, 901 Mercer St., Princeton, W. Va.

All services at Pearl Harbor or in South Pacific on Dec. 7, 1941—Dec. 7-9, Dallas, Texas. Write Pearl Harbor Veterans, P. O. Box 3902, Station A, Dallas 8, Texas.

#### NAVY

96th NCB—Nov. 9-11, El Rancho Motel, Muskogee, Okla. Write L. S. Bond, c/o El Rancho Motel, 200 S. 32nd St., Muskogee, Okla.

USS Cor-Caroli (AK-91)—July 20-21, 1963, Denver, Colo. Write Arthur Lundberg, 1441 S. Beach St., Denver 19, Colo.

USS Elmore (APA-42)—July 19-21, 1963, Wilmington, Del. Write Harvey P. Parry, Jr., 1431 Wedgewood Rd., Oak Hill, Wilmington, Del.

USS Wadsworth (DD516)—August 1963, Chicago. Write Sig Mandel, 5011 Elmhurst, Detroit 4, Mich.

USS West Virginia (BB-48)—Dec. 8, V.F.W. Hall, 1822 W. 162nd St., Gardena, Calif. Write R. A. Brown, V.F.W. Hall, 1822 W. 162nd St., Gardena, Calif.

## MEN PAST 40

### Afflicted With Getting Up Nights, Pains in Back, Hips, Legs, Nervousness, Tiredness.

If you are a victim of the above symptoms, the trouble may be due to Glandular Inflammation. A constitutional Disease for which it is futile for sufferers to try to treat themselves at home.

To men of middle age or past this type of inflammation occurs frequently. It is often accompanied by despondency, emotional upset and other mental and nervous reactions. Neglect of such Inflammation causes men to lose their vigor, grow old prematurely and often leads to incurable conditions.

Most men, if treatment is taken in time, can be successfully NON-SURGICALLY treated for Glandular Inflammation. If the condition is aggravated by lack of treatment, surgery may be the only chance.

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The NON-SURGICAL New Type treatments used at the Excelsior Medical Clinic are the result of discoveries in recent years of new techniques and drugs plus over 20 years research by scientific technologists and Doctors.

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## Heavy Wool Jacket With Simulated Leather Sleeves

All wool navy body, with button front. Sleeves and pocket trim are made of U. S. Rubber Corporation's "Naugalite", natural color. This material feels like leather, looks like leather and is dry-cleanable. Dirt spots can also be washed clean with soap and water. Wool is 24-ounce Melton. Entire jacket is lined with Rayon. Trim at neck, sleeve ends and waist is Cotton-Durene with elastic for firm body. A 5-inch embroidered V.F.W. emblem is sewed on left chest.

Sizes: Small	(34-36)
Medium	(38-40)
Large	(42-44)
Extra Large	(46-48)

No. J-627-LS ..... Price \$13.95  
Same style as above, with Melton wool sleeves of same material as the jacket, but unlined.

No. J-627 ..... Price \$11.95

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# Jest · a · Minute

## Proud of Old Paw

We had a Texan in our outfit who always had the last, and loudest, word in any conversation. His tall exaggerations were never topped by any of us until the night he was bragging about his pappy. "Why, my pappy was so smart he had his picture in every paper in Texas when he was only eleven years old!"

A tall, lanky private from Alabama, sitting on his cot, suddenly blurted out, "Well, my paw had his picture in every paper in these United States when he was just ten years old!"

The Texan looked at him suspiciously, then asked in a lofty tone, "What'd he do to get his picture in all them papers?"

The Alabaman shrugged, "I don't rightly know—I was only four days old at the time."

—True

## Wishes He Could

"Father," asked the small boy, "which can go faster, horses or buses?"

"Buses, of course," answered the father impatiently.

"Then why," asked the small boy, "don't you bet on the buses?"

—Exchange

## Compliments of Friends

The door bell rang and the lady of the house discovered a workman complete with tool chest, on the front porch.

"Madam," he announced, "I'm the piano-tuner."

The lady exclaimed, "Why, I did not send for a piano-tuner."

The man replied, "I know you didn't, but your neighbors did."

—Jack Herbert

## Worth Every Cent

The cowboy was making his first trip to the big city. At a party he was invited to, an awe-struck friend saw an enormous diamond ring.

"Is that diamond genuine?" the friend asked.

"If it ain't," the cowboy drawled, "I sure been beat out of a dollar and a half."

—Nashville Banner

## Joined in the Fun

During World War II, a buck private and a sergeant were court-martialed for striking a colonel.

Asked why he had done it, the sergeant explained that the colonel, while passing down the line of review, had stepped on his sore foot.

"Instinctively," said the sergeant, "I threw up my guard, like anyone would do, and let him have it before I realized what had actually happened. It was an accident, I can assure you."

Then the buck private was asked for his explanation. "Well, you see, sir," he replied, "when I saw the sergeant strike the colonel, I thought the war was over."

—S. J. Gudge

## Good Riddance

A woman in the suburbs was chatting over the back fence with her neighbor.

"We're going to be living in a better neighborhood soon," she said.

"So are we," her neighbor volunteered.

"What? Are you moving too?"

"No, we're staying here."

—Rotary Fellow

## That's a Kid

As many as half the pupils in the small town grammar school had been absent with colds at one time. On a day when the attendance was particularly good, the teacher decided to give a little talk on the dangers of exposure.

To clinch her talk, she concluded: "I knew a little boy just seven years old who took his new sled out in the snow—and he caught pneumonia and three days later he died."

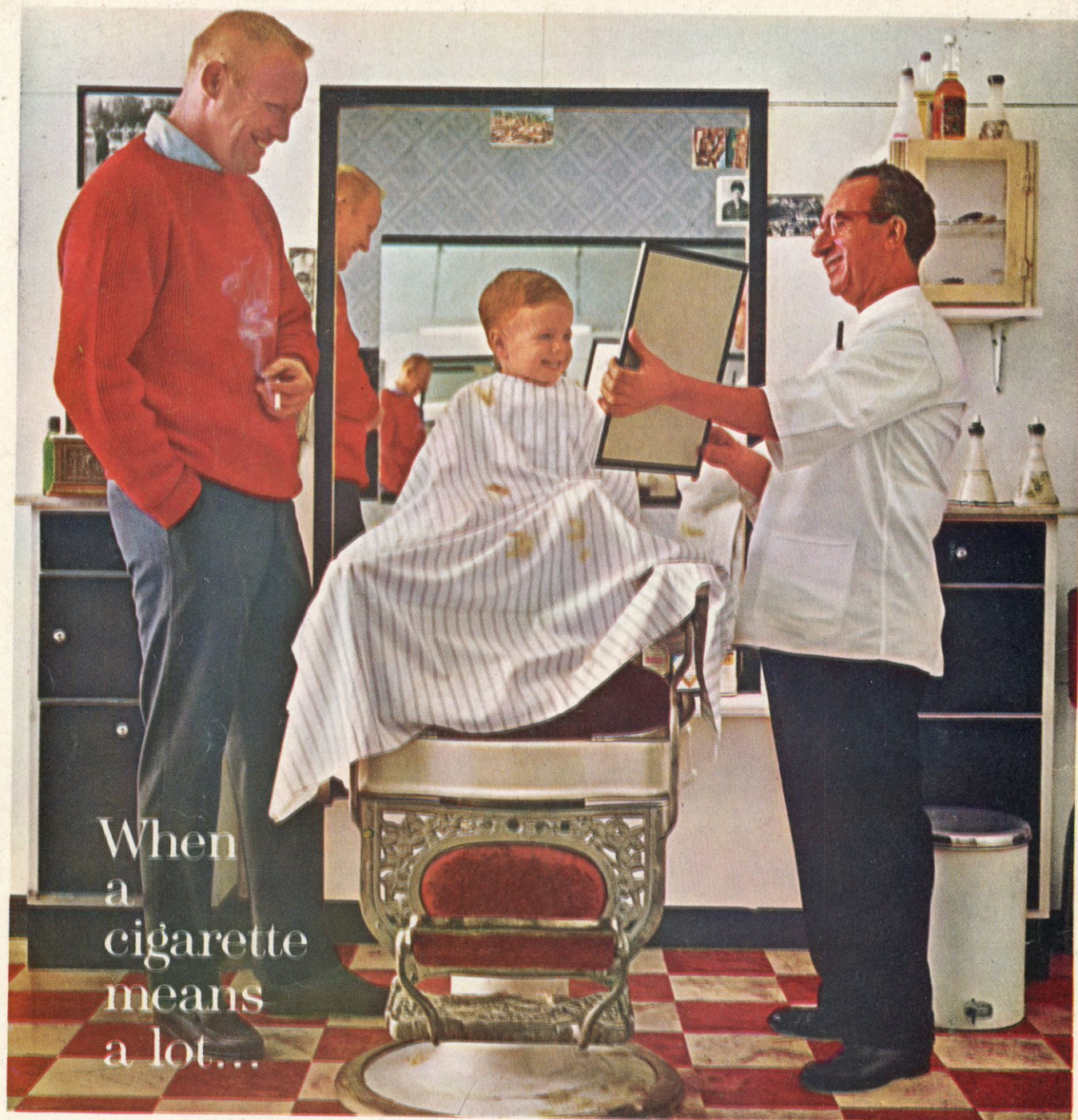
The classroom was heavy with silence, and she was satisfied with the effectiveness of her story, when suddenly a small voice piped up from the rear:

"Where's his sled?"

—Healthways







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